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BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

OF THE

RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD,

FOR

1869-70.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

THE RESIDENT at Hyderabad exercises, as is well-known, both administrative and political functions: administrative, in respect of certain districts of His Highness the Nizam's dominions the management of which is vested in British officers acting under his authority; political, in regard to that portion of the Hyderabad country which is immediately under the native government itself, and where the Resident's influence is felt only indirectly.

2. It is proposed, in drawing up the following Report, to observe the line of demarcation just indicated. The Resident's administration of the districts subject to his own authority will be treated of firstly. And a slight sketch will be attempted, secondly, of the condition of that larger section of His Highness' country where the *rôle* of the British representative is limited to political surveillance.

3. Under the former heading, the place of prominence undoubtedly belongs to the Administration of the HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS. In these, the Resident wields the powers of a Local Government, without any reference to His Highness the Nizam at all. In the Military cantonments, and other detached portions of the Hyderabad country, again, which are presided over by British officers, his powers are of a slightly different description; having been vested in him by the Nizam not for administrative purposes properly so called, but chiefly as a matter of convenience or public expediency with reference to the special objects with which such jurisdictions exist. Nevertheless, the latter possess an interest of their own. They form centres of British influence and civilization in the regions in which they are situated. And, apart altogether from military occupation, it cannot be questioned that the location of a number of British officers in these generally speaking isolated positions strongly promotes the cause of order throughout the interior of the Hyderabad territory. A review of what has passed during the year in some of these stations may therefore not be out of place.

4. In the second division of the Report a rapid survey will be taken of the political situation at Hyderabad. And the modifications which that has undergone subsequently to the death of His Highness the late Nizam will also be briefly described, for the consideration of the Government of India.

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Division First.

ADMINISTRATIVE.

PART A.

HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

INTRODUCTORY

1. In submitting this the sixteenth annual Report for the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, it may be well, first of all, to note very briefly the circumstances in which so considerable a tract of the Hyderabad country, while continuing in respect of sovereignty to pertain to His Highness the Nizam, has come to be administered by British officers, and much in the same manner as a British province.

2. During the darker days, now fortunately passed away, of the Hyderabad State, when urgent financial embarrassment was one of many chronic evils which oppressed it, the pay of the military establishments necessary for the maintenance of order and good government in the country was constantly falling in arrear.

3. The most important of these, indeed, namely the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, which was considered in some measure as a contribution on the Nizam's part to the military resources of the empire at large, although designed primarily for the protection of his own capital, had early been placed beyond the reach of such contingencies; owing to a large cession of territory having been made by His Highness to the British Government expressly to meet the cost of its maintenance at a certain stated strength.

4. But only second in importance to the subsidiary force, there was another military body, disciplined on the irregular system, complete in itself, and fitted to act with the celerity of a Flying column or Light Brigade against any disturbers of peaceful government who might show themselves in the remoter parts of His Highness' country itself. This compact little force, consisting of Artillery, Cavalry, and Infantry, had existed since the year 1813. Its high state of efficiency was due to the fact of its being commanded chiefly by a Staff of British officers belonging to the Company's regiments, who were lent as it were to the Hyderabad government for the purpose.

5. The worst consequences used to be experienced from the pay of this "Nizam's army," as it was called, falling in arrear. Not only were the British officers who were serving with it injuriously affected by the total suspension of their allowances, but the efficiency of all ranks alike was sapped. To remedy this state of affairs, frequent advances of money had to be made from time to time from our own treasury. References to the native government followed as a matter of course. These were calculated to keep up a state of irritation between the two Governments, which might obviously have been productive of the gravest evils. They failed moreover as regards the object with which they were made, for the simple reason that the Hyderabad treasury was empty, and its credit exhausted; so that it was impossible for the sums due to the army, or to the British Government on account of the army, to be paid.

6. Thus, after a time, the question resolved itself into this: shall the force now alluded to be disbanded, and the interior of the country be exposed to a recurrence of the old scenes of lawlessness; or shall some effectual means be devised of ensuring its regular payment?

7. The former alternative was rejected by the Nizam. He made no secret of his apprehension that serious danger would be incurred if the army which was to his country as the key-stone of its internal tranquillity should be broken up. His natural pride, moreover, raised perhaps a still stronger barrier against such a step. And, when the Resident of the day, Colonel, now Major-General Sir John, Lowe proposed to him disbandment, he replied that, of all possible expedients, these two were the most distressing to one in his position, namely the

alienation of so much as a yard of his ancestral territory, and the reduction of his army even by one soldier. Thus, unwilling to dispense with these troops, and equally unable to pay them, a way out of the dilemma was happily found; by which, without any part of his dominions being alienated from him in point of sovereign rights, certain fertile districts were placed by him in the hands of the Resident, in order that he might administer them on our own system, devote what was requisite of the revenue so realized to the payment of the force in question, and hand over the surplus to him.

8. Such, briefly, were the circumstances in which, under the provisions of a treaty executed by the Marquis of Dalhousie with the Nizam in 1853, the HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS were transferred to British management.

9. The territorial limits of the province received, as will be remembered, certain necessary modifications in 1861, when our latest treaty with His Highness was concluded. Grave and altogether exceptional grounds of political expediency,—foremost of which was a desire on the part of the British Government to reward the Nizam for his loyal bearing during the crisis of 1857,—then led to a considerable portion of the original assignment being restored to his own direct management; while we were fain to trust to increased administrative care with regard to the districts still assigned to us, in order that the full tale of revenue might be realized as before from the diminished area, and in a manner advantageous to the people. The Reports of my predecessors show how successfully this two-fold object has been carried out.

10. The Hyderabad Assigned Districts, in their present form, are composed entirely of the valley of Berar; which extends from the confines of the Central Provinces on the east, to those of the Bombay Presidency on the west; with the Satpura range of mountains as its northern, and the Ajanta range and the Paeen Ganga river as its southern boundaries.

11. A detailed description of the physical, political, and fiscal geography of Berar is not attempted here: partly because adequate data are not as yet very readily available; but chiefly because Mr. LYALL, B. C. S., the talented Commissioner of West Berar, is engaged in the preparation of a provincial Gazetteer, which will shortly be submitted to Government, and will fulfil every requirement.

12. Suffice it, therefore, here to mention that an area of little less than 18,000 square miles, and a population estimated at three millions, are included in the limits of the Assigned Districts. The latter consists chiefly of Koonbees, and other agricultural or industrious classes. These are essentially peaceful in their habits; and not a soldier of the regular army is required to garrison Berar. The natural capabilities of the province, with its soil forming one vast superstratum of black loam on a base of trap and basalt,—its regular and abundant rain-fall,—its thickly distributed habitations,—its extensive cotton fields,—and its numerous streams,—could hardly be surpassed; while a railway, traversing the entire length of the valley, fills its marts with merchants; and carries off its products rapidly and cheaply to the most advantageous centres of trade.

13. The two principal towns of Berar, commercially, are Oomrawuttee and Khamgaon. The former is the official capital of East Berar, and has a population of 23,410; among whom are many wealthy traders. The latter,—Khamgaon,—although its fixed population barely aggregates 10,000,—is the largest cotton market not only in Berar but in India. During the five months of the year when the cotton trade is at its height, money to the amount of one karor of rupees (£1,000,000) changes hands in its bazars. This would be at the extraordinary rate of £100 sterling for every inhabitant. But allowance must be made for the great influx of strangers from other quarters,—as many perhaps as five thousand,—who throng its streets during the busy season. The want so long felt of railway communication between Khamgaon and the Bombay and Nagpur line at Jhellum,—midway between Nandoora and Sheagaon,—has now been supplied. The opening of the new branch by His Excellency the Viceroy in person formed one of the most notable incidents in the history of Berar during the past official year.

14. The associations connected with the old Muhammadan capital of Ellichpur, which is situated in the north-eastern corner of the province, are of an historical rather than an industrial character. About twenty miles distant from it, lies the well-known plateau of Chikalda; the salubrious climate of which, and its elevation of 3,777 feet above the sea-level recommended it during the past year as a sanitarium for invalid European soldiers of the Madras establishment. It was only the financial pressure of the times that prevented this scheme from being carried out.

15. Akolah, not originally of much importance, and showing a population of only 14,606, owes its prominence to having been selected as the Divisional Head-quarters of West Berar.

16. The whole province is now divided, for purposes of administration, into the two Divisions of East and West Berar. Each of these has its own Commissioner, who is subordinate only to the Resident. Five Deputy Commissioners; fifteen Assistants, and eight Extra Assistants complete what may be called the upper and middle portions of the administrative structure proper.

17. The prosperity of the districts under the above arrangements has been great. Some of the causes which have enriched the people lay, it is true, beyond the controul of administrators. Such, for instance, were the consequences which the American war produced in Berar; when cotton, which had formerly been only one of many other staples, suddenly became the "prevailing, absorbing, predominating" product; and when the whole valley was inundated with wealth. But, apart from fortuitous circumstances, the history of this province during the past ten years seems to deserve the consideration of all who are still in doubt regarding the comparative superiority of British or native rule.

18. The gross provincial revenue has gradually risen from rupees 42,09,049 (£420,905) in 1862-63, to rupees 70,45,000 (£704,500) in 1869-70.

19. Cheap and prompt justice has at the same time been brought within the reach of all.

20. A settlement of the Land-revenue, the basis of all sound agricultural prosperity in this country, has been undertaken; and is rapidly progressing towards completion. It has been modelled on the most approved Bombay system; which is better adapted than any other to the *raiatwáree* tenures of Berar. A scientific system of forestry is also being introduced.

21. Police establishments which, without unduly interfering with the people, are able to meet the exigencies of the province in respect to its criminal classes, have gradually been organized. The old-fashioned prisons in which, for many years after the assignment, it was necessary to chain the convicts every night to an iron bar, have given place to jails and lock-ups constructed on sound principles. And the serious prison *emeutes*, often attended with bloodshed, which used at one time to happen have now become things of the past.

22. At least a commencement has been made in the important work of sanitation. One of the most promising measures of the year about to be reviewed has been the appointment of a special sanitary officer for Berar itself.

23. Last, but not least, education has been offered to all classes of the people; and, it is satisfactory to know, has been more and more widely appreciated every year.

24. Money has not been spared in promoting these and other similar results. The building of Courts of Justice, Schools, and Jails in sites long sacred to bears and panthers must needs be costly: more so in Berar indeed than in most parts of India. The same must be said of the construction of railways and roads. But many of these causes of outlay belong to the early stages of administration, and do not recur. And it has been notably witnessed in Berar, that the more freely money has been expended in the development of administrative agencies, and of the communications and material resources of the districts, the more remarkably have the expansive tendencies of the revenue been brought out.

25. The "Hyderabad Contingent," as it is now called, which forms, in the manner shown above, the primary charge on the finances of the province, has itself called for some increase on the expenditure originally estimated for it; having cost only rupees 24,10,000 (£241,000) in 1862-63, against rupees 30,32,000 (£303,200) last year.

This has not been caused by any augmentation of its strength numerically; but by the necessity for granting compensation to the men on account of dearness of provisions; and also by one or two improvements which have been introduced into the force with the view of keeping it abreast of other military bodies in discipline and efficiency. The excellent service rendered by certain regiments of the Contingent, which, with the sanction of the Nizam, were attached to Sir Hugh Rose's column in Central India, during the exigencies of the great mutiny, must be in the remembrance of the Government of India.

26. And yet, after the defrayal of all the above heavy military and administrative charges, and after the construction of the Khamgaon and Jhellum State railway already alluded to, a sum of nearly twenty-five lakhs of rupees (£250,000) has accrued to

the Nizam, as surplus revenue of Berar, since the assignment. This large amount,—large when it is considered how much has been done for the province itself during the same period,—has been paid into His Highness' treasury in three instalments; the last of which, amounting to rupees 9,94,882 (£99,488) was so paid only a few weeks ago. And a still further balance in favor of His Highness may be expected shortly to be available, inasmuch as the realizations of the past year have considerably exceeded what had been anticipated; and a fresh excess of revenue over expenditure for the period in question has been the result.

27. In closing these cursory remarks, I think it may fairly be said that the administration of Berar by our Government has proved as advantageous to His Highness the Nizam, as it is conducive to the material and moral well-being of its inhabitants themselves. In less than ten years, the revenue has been raised, as is shown above, by, in round numbers, twenty-eight lakhs (£280,000) *per annum.* Funds have also been provided for the requirements of a body of soldiers, which His Highness, when the burden of their maintenance rested on his own government, found it impossible to pay, and yet absolutely declined to dispense with. And it is further hoped that, in attaining all these ends, three millions of people have been enriched with many of the benefits which it specially belongs to British administration to bestow; and have been placed *en rapport* with a higher form of civilization than they could otherwise have participated in for perhaps centuries to come.

CHAPTER I.

JUDICIAL.

SECTION I.—LAW.

28. Owing to the peculiar political status of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, enactments of the British Legislature do not *ipso facto* become applicable to the province. When, however, it is considered that an Act of the Government of India might advantageously be extended to it, application is made to the

Foreign Department, and if approved a special executive notification in the *Gazette of India* follows. During the past year this course has been taken as regards the following enactments :—

1.—Act	VIII. of 1869.	Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure.
2.—Act	X. of 1865.	The Indian Succession Act.
3.—Act	XV. of 1869.	The Prisoners' Testimony Act.
4.—Act	XVIII. of 1869.	The General Stamp Act.
5.—Act	XXI. of 1869.	The European Vagrancy Act.
6.—Act	VII. of 1870.	The Court Fees Act.

29. The laws and regulations which have from time to time been made applicable to Berar since the assignment have, during the past year, been codified in an excellent manual by the Commissioner of West Berar, the result of which ought to be apparent in increased precision on the part of judicial officers throughout the province.

SECTION II.—CIVIL DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS.

30. No important change has taken place under this head. The number of divisions and number of districts in each division remain the same as last year. The only territorial alteration made during the year was the transfer of the Morsee Talukah from the Ellichpore to the Oomrawuttee District.

31. For the convenience of the inhabitants of the southern portion of the Chandoor and Murtizapur Talukahs, who had to travel 30 or 40 miles to bring their claims into court, the Judicial Extra Assistant formerly stationed at Oomrawuttee was transferred to the large town of Karinjah, distant about forty miles from the district head-quarters. This transfer has already proved beneficial, as well to the people for whose advantage it was mainly designed as to the general administration.

SECTION III.—CIVIL JUSTICE.

Tribunals.

32. The judicial machinery existing in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts is nearly the same as in other non-regulation provinces.

33. The main difference consists in the union in the Resident of the powers of a chief controlling revenue authority and those of the highest civil and criminal courts; whereas in other provinces the offices of Financial and Judicial Commissioner are held separately. The Resident has, therefore, not only to direct and supervise the general administration of the province, but also to carry on the civil and criminal work devolving on his own court.

34. The number of courts open at the close of the year was:—

(I.)— The Resident's (Provincial Sadr) Court of final appeal and reference; with its head-quarters at Hyderabad.

(II.)— 2 Courts of Commissioners; with division head-quarters at Akolah and Oomrawuttee.

(III.)— 5 Courts of Deputy Commissioners.

(IV.)— 1 Court of Assistant Commissioner in charge of Bassim, with powers nearly equivalent to those of a Deputy Commissioner.

(V.)— 9 Do. of Assistant Commissioners.

(VI.)— 4 Do. of Extra Assistant Commissioners.

(VII.)— 4 Do. of Judicial Extra Assistant Commissioners or Moonsiffs.

(VIII.)—15 Courts of Tahseeldars.

(IX.)— 3 Small Cause Courts.

Total...44

Twenty-four of these belong to East, and 19 to West Berar.

35. The following shows the suits disposed of during the year in all the Courts of original jurisdiction in the province; and what portion fell to each Court:—

	Cases.	Per cent.
19 District Officers and their Assistants	2,404	... 15·3
4 Judicial Extra Assistant Commissioners...	5,171	... 33
15 Tahseeldars	4,523	... 29
3 Small Cause Court Judges	3,533	... 22·6
Total...	15,631	

36. It thus appears that the Small Cause Court Judges and Judicial Extra Assistant Commissioners, in proportion to their numbers, did a far greater share of judicial work than the other Officers of the administration. This is intelligible enough when it is borne in mind that in the one case judicial functions form the sole duty assigned, while in the other these are largely interspersed with administrative, magisterial, and revenue cares.

37. Comparing the litigation of the past year with that of the year preceding it, a decrease of 1,069 cases is perceptible, as shown below:—

1869	...	...	...	15,798
1868	...	...	...	16,867

38. This decrease is tolerably general over the whole province. But it is satisfactory to notice that its incidence has been specially marked as regards the Akolah district, in which the somewhat undue prevalence of litigation had attracted the notice of the Government of India in recent years.

39. With the decrease in number there has been a concomitant diminution in the value of suits.

Thus the total value of property litigated in 1868 was rupees 18,79,515 (£187,951,) as against rupees 17,99,149 (£179,915) in 1869, showing a falling off of rupees 80,366 (8,036.) The average value has at the same time decreased from rupees 111 (£11) to rupees 109 (£10 18*s.*) per suit.

40. In connection with the above subject, namely the decrease of litigation, the Commissioner of East Berar thus writes:—

"It is not to be inferred that there is any falling off in trade, or any diminution in large transactions, but most of the cases for large sums tried during the past two or three years, especially during 1866 and 1867, arose out of speculations at the time when the American war had caused such a sudden and enormous demand for Berar cotton. Many of these transactions were conducted in a loose and unbusiness-like way, and I could not but remark at the time the extraordinary intricacy of some of the cases which came before me in appeal in 1866. As the parties themselves could not state the precise terms of the contract or agreement, the matter of course came into court, and the fact that many of the claims fell to the ground caused traders generally to be more cautious in their dealings. It is now the rule for parties to reduce their agreements to writing, instead of this being the exception as it was a few years ago. Increasing caution in this respect, coupled with registration which is gradually more freely resorted to, must tend to a decrease in suits, especially of the higher values."

Costs of litigation.

41. The percentage of costs to value litigated has been about 16 per cent., which is heavy. Last year it was 15·5.

42. The character of litigation in Berar is for the most part very simple. Of all suits filed during the past year 55 per cent. were for the recovery of simple loans or bond debts. The claims based on registered instruments amounted to only 294.

43. The system of taking stamped bonds from borrowers seems to be general in the Assigned Districts. Debtors also are little given to disavowing their bonds; although in the case of those who can neither read nor write, it would be easy to plead that they had been imposed upon by the money-lender. Of course this facilitates the working of the courts; and may partly account for the large number of suits the Judges of the Small Cause Courts and the Extra Assistant Commissioners have been able to dispose of.

Next to bonds, the largest number of suits is for debt due on balance of accounts. There were only 73 cases of inheritance, and 72 of mortgage; and there was one suit for restitution of conjugal rights, which the Commissioner of West Berar remarks upon as a novelty in the litigation of the province. Perhaps it may be accepted as a sign that the people are at least beginning to resort for redress to the courts, in a class of cases which used quite recently to be the fruitful source of crimes of violence of the worst description.

44. The following shows how the suits were disposed of:—

Divisions.	On their merits.	Settled amicably.	Withdrawn.	Dismissed for default.	Total.
East Berar ...	4,604	1,399	127	241	6,371
West Berar ...	6,685	2,118	162	295	9,260
Total...	11,289	3,517	289	536	15,631

45. Of the cases decided on their merits, the following is a detail :—

Divisions.	Referred to arbitration.	Confession of judgment.	Decreed *ex parte*.	After contest in Court.	Total.
East Berar ...	19	2,001	719	1,865	4,604
West Berar ...	41	3,431	1,168	2,045	6,685
Total...	60	5,432	1,887	3,910	11,289

The number of *ex parte* decisions may be thought large. But it has to be remembered that defendants who think their case hopeless frequently absent themselves on the day fixed for hearing, so that many *ex parte* decisions involve in reality a confession of judgment.

Cases referred to Arbitration.

46. There were altogether only 58 cases referred to arbitration, and it is remarkable that this mode of adjudication should be so little made use of.

47. That the subject is fully before the local authorities may be inferred from the following remarks by Mr. Lyall:—

"It is certain that formal reference to arbitrators under the code is not popular with litigants, while the arbitrators always hang back, yet we are much in want of some effectual contrivance for bringing to bear common sense, special knowledge, and local opinion upon facts and circumstances of which a foreign or inexperienced judge can never appreciate the general colour and character. He is often utterly puzzled by a dispute which is notoriously clear as sun-light to every one interested, and to their neighbours. Yet he who must decide it has the least chance of hitting off the truth, because the judge has nothing to go upon but what he hears in court. Among a people who have kept no records or papers, a man have lived in a house for 20 years before the whole village, and yet be unable to prove it to an English judge by oral testimony against an unscrupulous adversary."

may

48. The above remarks not only bear upon the subject which has suggested them to Mr. Lyall, but also tend to illustrate the advantages of officers of the administration endeavouring as much as possible to see things with their own eyes, and make themselves practically conversant with the usages and conditions of life prevailing among the people whose interests are committed to them. In proportion as they can do this will their "chance of hitting off the truth" in the performance of their judicial functions be increased. The British officer is doubtless prevented by difference of race and other causes from identifying himself to the fullest extent with the feelings and circumstances of the litigants who resort to his Court. But he is also for the most part raised above the influences which not unfrequently serve to render native tribunals corrupt. This fact is fully appreciated by the natives themselves; and may serve indeed to explain the superior degree of confidence with which they intrust their affairs to arbitrament at our hands. Nevertheless it might be possible to devise some mode of making the local knowledge and experience which belong to the native more directly available than now to the foreign judge in civil law suits, as hinted at by Mr. Lyall.

Average duration of Suits, &c.

49. The average duration of cases was 28 days. This high average was mainly due to certain old and long pending suits. As these have now been disposed of, improvement will be insisted upon in this respect. In the Small Cause Court quite as low an average as is to be desired was attained, namely seven days.

The average period for which each witness was detained was 1·04 days.

The total number of cases pending at the close of the year was 269, against 490 in the previous year.

Small Cause Courts.

50. The following will show at a glance the working of the three Small Cause Courts:—

No. of Courts.	Place where Court held.	No. of cases pending from last year.	Instituted during the year.	Total for disposal.	Total disposed during the year.	Total value litigated.	Average value per suit.	Cases pending at close of year.
						Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1	Oomrawuttee ...	31	1,315	1,346	1,339	89,622 11 5	66 14 11	7
2	Ellichpore ...	...	733	733	703	44,279 11 0	60 6 8	30
3	Khamgaon ...	100	1,471	1,571	1,532	1,11,243 6 2	72 2 6	39

These courts are popular, and the work is promptly disposed of. That at Oomrawuttee very nearly paid its own expenses during the year. The Ellichpore court showed an income of Government rupees 7,886 (£788,) against an expenditure of rupees 3,756 (£375.) At Khamgaon again the receipts exceeded the expenditure by upwards of 5,000 rupees (£500.) Thus the aggregate receipts of these three courts more than defrayed their cost.

The Oomrawuttee Small Cause Court Judge holds enhanced jurisdiction under Section 7 of Act XI. of 1865, to try cases up to 1,000 rupees in value.

Appellate-business. District Courts.

51. The following shows the number of appeals to District Courts for the last three years:—

Divisions.	1867.	1868.	1869.	Pending.
West Berar	327 ...	308 ...	286 ...	13
East Berar	310 ...	189 ...	220 ...	7

The percentage of reversals or modifications in West Berar was 33·7, and in East Berar 22.

Commissioners' Courts.

52. The number of appeals and special appeals to the Commissioners' Courts was 45 in East, and 101 in West Berar. The percentage of regular appeals reversed or modified was respectively 22·8 and 14·9, and in special appeals 28·5 and 64·2.

Regarding the latter point, the Commissioner of West Berar writes as follows:—

"Special appeals are not admitted save on strong *primâ facie* grounds. But the high percentage of reversals on special appeals admitted is further explained by the accident that of the nine lower appellate orders reversed, five were cancelled by one decree in special appeal, as they all depended on one ruling regarding shares in a field."

Resident's Sadr Court.

53. There were 45 petitions of appeal to the Resident's Court during the year. Of these, 37 were disposed of, and 8 remained pending. This does not include the work of his court as a revising authority.

Execution of Decrees.

54. Special attention has been bestowed during the year on the subject of the execution of decrees, and it is believed a creditable degree of promptitude in this important matter has been attained.

55. Sanction to sale of land in execution is not given except on urgent grounds, and then only after reference has been made to the Resident on each separate case. Imprisonment for debt is not encouraged more than can be helped. There is no doubt, however, as to its efficiency. It well meets the case of dishonest debtors who have mortgaged their effects in view of the execution of a decree against them.

Quality of Judicial Work.

56. As regards the quality of the judicial work of 1869, I have every reason to believe that as a whole it has been at least as good as in preceding years. In many respects indeed improvement is apparent: and I consider that the supervision exercised by the higher courts has been both careful and efficient.

SECTION IV.—REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

57. A Sub-Registry office was opened at Khamgaon during the year, having seemed only a necessary recognition of the wants of that busy centre of commerce and industry.

58. The following table exhibits the results of the Registration department for the second year of its operation in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts:—

Total number of instruments registered during		Increase.	Decrease.	Of the number registered in 1869-70 there were		Of the number registered in 1868-69, there were		Increase.	
1868-69.	1869-70.			Compulsory.	Optional.	Compulsory.	Optional.	Compulsory.	Optional.
5,897	6,683	786	...	2,623	4,060	2,131	3,766	492	294

59. The number of registered bonds sued on in the several Courts was only 294. The fact already alluded to regarding the general disposition of the borrowing classes to admit their bonds may have led the money-lenders in many instances to dispense with registration. Nevertheless a sounder view on this subject may be expected gradually to gain ground. And I would fain hope for a large increase in these returns in future years.

Financial Results.

60. The financial results of the department may thus be summarized. The receipts for the year under report were rupees 16,475-12-2 (£1,647,) against rupees 12,341-5-1 (£1,234) in the previous year, which gives an increase of rupees 4,134-7-0 (£413); while the expenditure amounted to rupees 13,819-4-8 (£1,382,) as against rupees 16,075-10-3 (£1,607,) showing a decrease of rupees 2,256-5-7 (£225.)

61. The surplus therefore in cash credited to Government amounted to rupees 2,656-7-6 (£265,) which must be looked on as satisfactory, considering that this is only the second year during which the Act has been in force. Placing this surplus against the deficit of rupees 3,734-4-11 (£373,) which remained at the close of the previous year, and which was due to the heavy initial expenses of the department, a sum of only rupees 1,077-13-5 (£107) has now to be wiped out, in order to make good the total expenditure incurred under the head of registration since its first introduction into the province in June 1868. In a few months

this will be effected; and it will then be practicable to adopt suitable measures for the further development of the department, and the better remuneration of its *employés*.

SECTION V.—CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

Preliminary.

62. The criminal statistics of the year require to be slightly analysed before their true indications are apparent.

Increase of Crime.

63. Thus a very considerable increase of crime on the whole has been witnessed, as the following table shows:—

	Cognizable.	Uncognizable.	Total.
1867.....	4,542 ...	2,042 ...	6,584
1868.....	5,923 ...	2,123 ...	8,046
1869.....	7,309 ...	3,254 ...	10,563

Errors in returns.

64. The above figures perhaps are only approximately accurate. Notwithstanding the means used last year to impress upon officers the importance of care being bestowed on the preparation of these returns, it is to be regretted that discrepancies continue to be discoverable in certain of the statistics submitted by them. There is no doubt, however, that the general results are as just stated.

Decrease in heinous crime.

65. But then it has to be noted that heinous crime has decreased remarkably during the same period. The following comparative table gives the figures:—

Crimes.	Number of cases in the year. 1867.	1868.	1869.
Murder	22 ...	23 ...	14
Culpable homicide...	4 ...	4 ...	6
Dakaitee	34 ...	48 ...	17
Robbery	50 ...	56 ...	34

Disproportion of murders between East and West Berar.

66. There is a curious disproportion between the number of murders reported in East and West Berar respectively during the year; only one having occurred in the latter, against 13 in the former division.

Dakaitees.

67. The dakaitees were not of a very serious type, and in no case was injury to life inflicted. The aggregate value of property said to have fallen into the hands of dakaits was Government rupees 11,405 (£1,140.) In only 12 per cent. of the total number of cases had the perpetrators been brought to justice at the close of the year. This fact, however, is not so discouraging as it seems; because, of the dakaitees traced during the year, ten had been committed in preceding years; and the same thing is already happening this year in respect of the undetected crime of the previous one. This subject belongs, however, to the next section, namely that of police, rather than to the present.

Of the 34 robberies shown in the year's register, ten were simple, and the remainder were committed on the highways.

Cause of decrease in heinous crime.

68. The decrease in heinous crimes having occurred, as will be shown presently, during a year when Berar formed even more than usually the resort of professional criminals from other parts of India, may be regarded as especially satisfactory. It is ascribed, firstly, to a vigilant eye having been kept by the police on the influx and movements generally of the criminal classes; and secondly, to the careful patrolling of the highways leading to and from the market towns.

Crimes in which increase is most marked.

69. It is under the general head of minor offences that the increase noted in the second paragraph of this section has occurred. The following table shows the kinds of crime in regard to which it was most marked, together with the measure of the increase itself, compared with the previous year:—

Offences.	Increase in No. of cases.
Thefts	 546
Receiving stolen property.	 47
House-trespass and lurking house-trespass	 188
Nuisances under the Municipal and Police laws	 548
Weights and measures.....	 51
Mischief	 57
Assaults	 545

70. It is obvious that high returns under such headings as nuisances and breaches of municipal regulations cannot legitimately be accepted as swelling the general register of crime; since these evince only the introduction of sanitary reform where

previously less care had been expended in that direction. An increase under the category of receiving stolen goods again probably shows that a laudable energy has been used in proceeding against receivers, and thus striking a blow at the very root of crime against property.

Increase in thefts and burglaries.

71. It is plain, however, that there has been a real increase in the number of thefts and burglaries during the year.

72. The returns show the increase to have occurred chiefly in the Oomrawuttee district. And the following remarks by the Commissioner of that Division go far to account for such a result:—

"A prominent cause of the increase in crime against property," writes Major Nembhard in his Judicial Report, "was the invasion of the Oomrawuttee District during the year by an immense number of foreigners, from Bundelkund principally, but also from the Nurbudda valley, who came here seeking food. I saw many of these during the rains and spoke to them, asking why they had come so far, and into so dear a country as Berar: their reply was that they sought food, for there was none left in their own provinces, and they had also heard that there was a good demand here for labour. I repeatedly offered them employment at the rates they usually obtain in their own country; but, though they alleged they were starving, they rejected all offers of employment, unless they were paid at what has now become the Berar standard rate for coolie labour, *i. e.*, five annas a day, or rupees 9-8-0 per month."

"We reaped no advantage then by this large immigration of able-bodied foreigners, for labour was no cheaper; therefore, as we could not employ them, and as food here was plentiful, it is not to be wondered at that they took it by dishonest when they could not obtain it by fair means."

"The inhabitants of Bundelkund are expert thieves and house-breakers, the dark nights in the monsoon favouring their operations. Bundelkund is the nest where those famous tribes are born and bred, who live by stealing; and whence they issue every year, to commit their depredations in such districts of India as may have been allotted to them by their chiefs."

"Such are the Sonorias whose head-quarters are in the Tehree Rajah's country, which lies between Saugor and Jhansee; and who in considerable numbers visited Berar in 1869, helping by their shoplifting and pilfering to swell our list of crimes against property."

73. To those acquainted with the habits of the classes referred to by Major Nembhard in the above passage, further explanation is hardly necessary as regards the increase in thefts which attended their appearance. Perhaps it would have been well if the same rate of wages as prevails in Berar had been offered to the immigrants referred to: though it is doubtful whether this would have served to attract any considerable portion of them to honest courses.

Number of persons tried during the year.

74. Looking now to the action of the courts, there were 17,016 persons in all brought up for trial during the year; which bears the proportion of one reported offence to about every 225 of population.

Number and work of each Court.

75. The number of courts of original jurisdiction open during the year, with the number of cases disposed of by each court, is thus shown:—

No. of Courts.		No. of Cases.		
2	Commissioners' (Sessions) Courts ...	68 or	34	for each Court.
5	Deputy Commissioners' under Section 445-A. Criminal Procedure Code ...	60 or	12	do.
5	Do. as Magistrates ...	166 or	33	do.
1	Assistant Commissioner in charge of Bassim	148		
11	Assistant Commissioners ...	1,192 or	108	for each Court.
9	Extra Assistant Commissioners ...	408 or	45	do.
27	Tahseeldars	6,096 or	225	do.
1	Honorary Magistrate (Ellichpore District)...	368		
61	Courts.	Total cases...	8,506	disposed of.

76. It appears from the above that the heaviest portion of the judicial work was performed by the Assistant Commissioners and the Tahseeldars.

Honorary Magistrates.

77. The subject of honorary magistrates and the best means of introducing this form of jurisdiction into the province require careful consideration. At present, there is only one magistrate of this class, namely Bhagwantrao Narhar, Deshpandia of Ellichpur and Kholapur. The number of cases disposed of by him during the year was at the rate of about one a day. This does him credit Any recommendations proceeding from the Commissioners with a view of making this agency more general throughout Berar would receive my favorable attention. One immediate advantage of so doing would be to relieve the now over-burdened Tahseeldars.

Results of trials.

78. Of the 17,016 persons brought to trial before the Magistracy, there were

2,066 or 12 per cent.		Discharged without trial after enquiry by magistrate.
3,612 or 21	„	Acquitted.
11,490 or 66	„	Convicted.
222 or 1	„	Committed, or referred.
13		Died, escaped, or transferred.
24		Remained under trial at close of year.

79. Before the two Sessions' Courts (Akolah and Oomrawuttee) there were 83 persons convicted, to 52 acquitted. The five Deputy Commissioners in their enlarged criminal jurisdiction under Section 445-A. of the Criminal Procedure Code, convicted 58 persons, and acquitted 42.

Duration of trials.

80. The average duration of trials was:—

Before Magistrates' Courts	3 days.
Before Sessions' Courts	2 „

These periods are, however, calculated from the date of the case being brought before the court itself, and not from that of first apprehension of the accused.

Punishments inflicted.

81. The punishments inflicted by the several courts were as follows:—

	Persons.
Fined	8,503
Imprisoned	2,901
Flogged	218
Transported	7
Sentenced to death...	2*

Amount of fines.

82. The total amount of fines imposed was Government rupees 81,553 (£8,155,) of which amount nearly a third remained un-recovered at the close of the year. This perhaps indicates the need of greater judgment being used in fixing the amount of each fine. The disparity between the Magistrate's and the accused's ideas of the value of money may sometimes lead to the imposition of a fine out of all just proportion with the means of the person fined.

Punishments.

83. Of the total number punished, 73 per cent. were simply fined; while 23 per cent. of those imprisoned were sentenced to short terms not exceeding six months.

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* The following table will enable these results to be compared with the corresponding ones for the previous year:—

	Persons.		Persons.
Fined	4,973	Transported	15
Imprisoned	2,401	Sentenced to death	7
Flogged	84		

Whipping.

84. Whipping was more freely resorted to during the past than the preceding year, 218 persons having been thus punished in 1869, against only 84 in 1868.

85. The Commissioner of East Berar has recorded his opinion that magistrates do not award this punishment so frequently as they might do: and that native magistrates in particular will not resort to flogging if they can possibly avoid it. As Major Nembhard is an officer of experience, his remarks on this point may be submitted *in extenso*:—

"I am convinced," he writes, "that if magistrates would steadily award whipping as the punishment for petty theft they would do more to render property secure than any additional number of police we might entertain: Government as well as the public would share our gain. Our jails would be relieved from over-crowding, and the saving in prisoners' dietary would be no trifle. Before the introduction of the Penal Code, theft was, but burglary was not, punishable with stripes. Thieves soon learned this fact; and in a year of scarcity and high prices scores of them have, to my knowledge, committed what the law then defined as a burglary, under such circumstances as to ensure their being caught in the act, so that they might be tried and sentenced, and thereby pass into the comfortable quarters afforded by the jail, where they obtained the best food the country could provide. Since those days, our jails have become more comfortable than ever; the food has certainly not deteriorated, and a convict has not that physical labour to undergo which he would have were he a free man working for his bread. There is every inducement for an idly inclined man to seek the shelter and comfort of our jails. He would not like the confinement for a term of years; but six months, or a year suits him; and a petty theft now ensures him what he wishes; but would he commit that theft if he knew that the chances were greatly in favor of his receiving 100 or even 30 stripes."

86. There may be something in the above remarks. There is certainly no doubt of the advantage, fiscally, of flogging criminals and discharging them, instead of housing and feeding them in jails. Nevertheless I am averse to any general instructions being laid down on the subject of whipping; since there is hardly any other form of punishment in awarding which such nice consideration has to be bestowed on the circumstances of each particular offender and each particular offence. The provision made by the Act for the infliction of this punishment in addition to imprisonment, in the case of persons convicted of theft for the second time, enables it to be employed whenever any one seems to be making a practice of committing offences for the sake of obtaining lodgings in the jail in the mode described by Major Nembhard. Instances such as he adverts to have doubtless occurred. But enquiry would probably show that there was something defective in the interior economy of the jail to which persons thus sought to earn admittance.

Detention of witnesses.

87. Of the total number of witnesses summoned during the year, only eight per cent. were detained for longer periods than one day, against 14 per cent. last year. The cases in which unnecessary detention occurred were, it is to be hoped, exceptional in character, and comparatively few in number. Further improvement in this respect is, however, being insisted upon; as there is nothing which makes the people more reluctant to give information to the police than the fear of their being subjected to undue delay when called upon to give evidence in the case.

Appeals to Deputy Commissioners.

88. There were 111 appeals preferred before the Deputy Commissioners. The orders of the Lower Courts were up-held in 58 ; and reversed, or modified, in 51 : while 2 cases remained pending at the close of the year.

Appeals to Commissioners.

89. 48 appeals came before the Commissioners ; who reversed 7 decisions ; modified 9 ; and confirmed 30.

Appeals to Resident.

90. Only 8 appeals were made to the Sadr Court of the Resident. 4 of these were rejected as untenable, and the judgment of the Lower Court was up-held in 3 cases, and modified in one. In addition to regular appeals, a good deal of work came before his Court in its capacity of a Court of Revision and Reference.

Summary of results.

91. The results of the year may thus be summarized. Compared with the previous year, there has been an increase of 31 per cent. in reported crime, attended, however, by a marked decrease in heinous offences, and especially in dakaitee, once the opprobrium of Berar. There has been a slight increase in the proportion of convictions to acquittals.

The average duration of trials contrasts favourably with last year's. And, on the whole, I trust that the judicial administration of the province has been approaching nearer and nearer throughout the past year, to the standard which it has still to attain.

SECTION VI.—POLICE.

92. The Hyderabad Assigned Districts have often been described as forming rather a difficult police charge. The vast increase in the trade of the province which has been witnessed during recent years has produced a corresponding diffusion of wealth; while the opening of Banks and introduction of currency notes have not yet had time to wean the people from the ancient custom of hoarding gold and silver in their houses. There is a lamentable want of courage, moreover, in the demeanour of the villagers generally, when undergoing violence at the hands of dakaits; and a marked absence of public spirit in co-operating with the police against the criminal classes.

93. Further, the province is greatly exposed, as has been seen in the preceding section, to the influx of un-employed adventurers or marauders. These are apt to establish themselves a short distance from the Berar frontier, and within His Highness the Nizam's territory; so as to be able to enter our districts at pleasure on errands of evil, without, however, bringing themselves fairly under the cognizance of our police. It is true the native authorities cordially assist in apprehending such robbers, when once they have been traced. But much mischief is often done before the Berar police succeed in discovering the outlying hamlets where they have established themselves.

Rahturs and Meenas.

94. Some of the tribes referred to, such as the Rahturs and Meenas, are born dakaits, with whom robbery is at once a profession, a faith, a mission. Not until means are devised of breaking up their fraternities, as has been done in the case of their congeners the Thugs, and above all of educating their children amid new influences and associations will their characteristics be changed.

Banjarees.

95. The Banjarees, or wandering grain-merchants, who regularly move about Berar itself, to the number of more than 50,000, are also much identified with the past history of violent crime in the province. Interesting in a way as the descendants of those who carried rice for the armies of Lord Lake and Wellesley, and possibly, too, as the relations of those gipsy tribes which still traverse some parts of Great Britain, they are to the Berar police-officer little else than a constant object of vigilance and precaution.

96. The mass of the inhabitants of Berar themselves are extremely well-disposed. Indeed the majority have something more attractive and profitable to care for than the commission of crime. And it may be said that the two cardinal points which the police has to set before it are, firstly, to maintain such communications with other parts of India as to ensure early intelligence of the movement Berarwards of members of the criminal classes; and secondly, to keep the indigenous Banjarees steadily under surveillance.

97. The measures in force with these ends have been described in previous Administration Reports. During the past year, they have been carried out with perhaps increased completeness and success; which is due, as far as the Banjarees are concerned, to the character and habits of their numerous clans *(Tundahs)* having become better known to the police than they once were; while the gratifying fact that no serious crime was traced during the year to the Rahturs is ascribed to the continued good services of an old Rahtur leader, who is now attached to the Force, and obtains information of the movements of his own and similar fraternities in different parts of India. As regards the Meenas, again, it is said that certain wholesome restrictions to which they used to be subjected in the Punjab, where they abound, have recently been relaxed; so that bands of these plunderers may now wander over the country unchecked, until actual crime is brought home to them. "It is far from improbable," writes the officiating Inspector General of police, in his annual Report, "that this may have had a bad effect even in Berar; distant though it be from the homes of the tribe."

Strength.

98. The Regular police force at the close of the year numbered 2,625 men, including 9 European officers, 17 Inspectors, 96 chief constables, 324 head constables, 2,139 first and second class constables, and 40 mounted camel police.

Disposition.

99. Of the above, the following numbers of each grade are classed as Municipal and Railway police respectively, and are employed accordingly:—

Municipal.	Railway.
— Inspectors.	1 Inspector, (European.)
7 Chief constables.	2 Chief constables (Europeans.)
47 Head constables.	9 Head constables.
234 Constables.	39 Constables.
288	51

Cost.

100. The aggregate cost of the establishment was rupees 4,86,398 (£48,640); of which rupees 4,18,104 (£41,810) were paid from the general revenues of the province, and rupees 62,246 (£6,224) from local funds; while rupees 6,048 (£604) were contributed by the Railway Company.

Cause of increase.

101. This would show a rise of rupees 17,850 (£1,785) in the cost of the police compared with last year. But the increase is only an apparent one, being due to the introduction during the year of the new rules requiring postage stamps to be affixed to official letters.

Distribution.

102. The distribution of the force (exclusive of European officers and Inspectors) was as follows, on the last day of the year :—

266 men were employed as guards over treasuries;
34 were guarding jails;
245 were at head-quarters of districts; sick; absent on leave; or wanting to complete establishment; and
2,054 were on general police duty.

Proportion to population.

The above details, which include, however, both the Municipal and Railway police, give an average of one policeman to about every 858 of the population.

Smallness of Jail Guards.

The reason that the number of police employed in guarding jails is so small is that detachments of the infantry of the Hyderabad Contingent are made available for this duty.

Village Police.

The above returns are, of course, exclusive of the village Police. The importance of the latter as a link in the chain of Police establishments is well known. It is difficult for the regular constabulary to afford efficient protection to villages lying 10 or 20 miles away from the nearest police station. For this, much dependence has to be placed on the village watchmen. The officiating Inspector General did not consider the working of the village police quite satisfactory during the year. He reports that the *personel* is good, and that the fault lies in their not sufficiently realizing the police portion of their responsibilities. This seems very likely. Suggestions have been invited with the view of improving the efficiency of the establishment; and, when the replies of the Commissioners have been received, the subject will receive due consideration.

Arms. 103. All ranks of the regular police are provided with uniform. Carbines, of indifferent quality, are distributed partially among the force, a certain portion of which is, however, armed only with the baton.

Education. 104. The Inspector General reports that "fair progress has been made at the different head-quarter schools." It is to be regretted that he has not submitted definite returns on this subject, which is now of greater moment than ever, owing to the work of the registration of vital statistics having recently been entrusted to the Police. Every petty officer in charge of a station-house has thus need to be able to read and write.

Work of Police. 105. The following table presents a general view of the results of police action during the year:—

Crimes.	Percentage of offences brought to trial to those admitted to have occured.		Percentage of persons convicted to those arrested.	
	1868.	1869.	1868.	1869.
Cognizable	63	65·8	65·5	71·7
Non-cognizable	97·6	95·7	51·8	55·2
Total	70·5	75·1	61·6	66·1

Thus, although there was an increase of crime on the whole during the year, as explained under Section V., the action of the police in dealing with it seems to have been satisfactory; inasmuch as a larger proportion of offences was brought to trial, and a larger proportion of the offenders who were sent up to the magistracy was convicted. A decrease in the amount of property stolen; and an increase in the proportion of recoveries marked the year. The following is a comparative table of the figures under this head, for the last four years:—

Years.	Stolen.			Recovered.			Percentage of recoveries.
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
1866 ...	2,01,150	0	0	59,341	0	0	29·50
1867 ...	1,50,808	0	0	45,035	0	0	29·86
1868 ...	2,19,948	0	0	47,718	0	0	21·7
1869 ...	1,92,642	13	11	49,511	9	9	25·7

It must be admitted that the above figures do not bespeak a very healthy state of things in this respect, although the common tendency of those who have been robbed to overstate the value of what they have lost will not be overlooked in connection with returns of this nature. Still, the same holds good in other parts of India; and Berar, it is to be feared, has a good deal of ground to make up before it can be compared advantageously by means of this particular test with the average of British administrations.

106. Of heinous offences reported during the year, restricting that term to murder, dakaitee, and robbery, apprehensions were made in only 62 cases per cent.; while of persons forwarded to the magistrate for trial there were convicted or committed 65 per cent.

The fact mentioned in the preceding section, namely that the undetected dakaitees of last year are now gradually being traced by the police, will be borne in mind in connection with the above only moderate results.

107. The instincts of the native policeman lead him to adopt strenuous, if not violent, measures for the detection of a crime *immediately after it has occurred;* and, failing speedy success, to let it slip from his view altogether. Our system is different; for it not only checks the random or indiscriminate arrests to which he is prone, but altogether forbids those practices bordering upon torture by which he loves to extract confessions and cut short his labours. Therefore it is essential, in detaching him from his own methods of detection, sedulously to discipline him in ours; foremost among which is the process of quietly and persistently following up a case long after the hue and cry connected with it has died away.

If it be true, as is often alleged, that the police all over India fail in point of detective ability, the above, perhaps, helps to furnish an explanation. The old and pernicious modes of crime detection are *per force* abandoned ; and sounder methods are not acquired instead of them.

108. In the case of the Berar police the extremely shifting character of the force forms a special difficulty to be contended against, in educating them up to the required standard of efficiency. Thus 259 resignations occurred during the year, and 276 during

the previous year. The cause of this, it is to be feared, is not one easy of removal,—unless indeed the pay of all ranks were to be raised,—because it so happens that there is hardly any kind of employment in the whole of Berar which will not yield to an able-bodied man more than a constable's pay. Therefore the honest resign the service: and many of those who remain in it do so for the sake of the facilities it gives them for acquiring forbidden gains.

Punishments.

109. Dismissal from the service loses, from the same cause, much of its efficacy as a punishment; and accordingly we find that 199 were dismissed under the orders of departmental officers alone during the year, besides those discharged after conviction before a criminal court. The number of such dismissals appears too high: and greater discrimination in this respect has been enjoined for the future. The most salutary punishments, short of judicial ones, are increased drills and tours of duty. Fines are objectionable for obvious reasons; and their infliction is discouraged: while dismissal, as has been seen, unfortunately forms scarce any punishment at all.

110. These facts are alluded to in explanation of the confessedly somewhat low detective powers of the force. Altogether 6 chief constables, 59 head constables and 451 constables, that is, of head constables 12 per cent., and of constables 21 per cent., either resigned or were dismissed in the course of the year. So long as such proportions are preserved, we must be prepared for results inferior to what a more permanent body of men might achieve. The Inspector General has recently been requested to submit a report on this whole subject, after full communication with the Commissioners regarding it. I trust to be able at least to some extent to apply a remedy to so unsatisfactory a state of things.

Conduct of Police.

111. The conduct of the police towards the public is favourably reported on. And yet, the number of men punished by judicial officers was rather high, being 3·6 per cent. of the strength. As an executive body, it has earned a good character, by the smartness of its appearance, and still more by the efficiency of its action during fairs and other large assemblages, as also during visitations of cholera, and on occasions of emergency generally. An excellent understanding seems to have subsisted between the police and the magistracy during the year, which is of itself a great point in favour of the police, as well as a source of strength to the administration as a whole.

Accidents to life reported by Police.

112. The number of accidents to life reported by the police during the year was as follows:—

	Persons.
Suicides	... 98
From falling into wells, tanks, and rivers ...	... 244
From fires	... 27
From lightning	... 13
From wind-stroke or sun-stroke ...	... 46
From wild beasts	... 72
From other accidental causes	... 260
Total...	750

General remarks.

113. The spread of cultivation, and opening up of new roads, which have been remarkable features in the history of progress in Berar since the assignment, have had their natural effect on the numbers not only of beasts of prey dangerous to human life, but, unfortunately, on the *Ferae Naturae* generally. Tigers, bears, and panthers are becoming rarer and rarer every year, where only ten years ago they abounded. Rewards are, however, still given for their destruction. The total sum thus expended during the year was Government rupees 9,763 (£976.)

114. On the whole, the results of the year as regards police action may, in spite of many difficulties and disadvantages, be pronounced favourable. The fact of not a single case of dakaitee having been reported during the last four months of the year, is one of much significance to those conversant with the antecedents of the province in this respect.

SECTION VII.—JAILS.

115. Jail-administration, strictly so called, was first introduced into the Assigned Districts only three years ago, when Sir R. Temple obtained for the jails, dispensaries, and sanitary interests of the province a share of the superintendence of the officer charged with corresponding duties in Nagpur. This was a great step in advance; and was all that the condition of Berar then seemed fairly to warrant. But subsequent progress has opened up the way for further administrative development in this, as in

other directions: and it has to be recorded as the prominent fact of the year in connection with this department that an officer has been appointed to the Berar administration itself for the purpose, among other duties, of exercising on the spot a careful supervision over its jails and their inmates. Beneficial results are, doubtless, to be anticipated from this. Indeed, over-administration of prison matters, if not guarded against, might even begin to show itself, in the way of more pains being taken to make convict-labour remunerative fiscally than to ensure its answering its own proper end, namely deterring men from committing crime. A special caution has been thought advisable on this point; and it has, at the same time, been impressed upon officers in charge of jails that, although convict-education should by no means be lost sight of, yet neither that nor any other object should be suffered to obscure the end and aim of every sound system of jail-administration, namely punishment pure and simple.

Prison accommodation.

116. The prison accommodation of Berar consists of two central jails, one of which is at Akolah, and the other at Oomrawuttee; and three lock-ups. In last year's Administration Report, it was stated that neither of the central jails had at that date been completed; while two new lock-ups sanctioned for Yeotmahal and Ellichpur had not even been commenced. "At Buldanah and Bassim," it was added, "jail-buildings will have to be provided as soon as funds permit." During the past year, a good deal, and yet not all that could be wished, has been done to extend and improve jail-accommodation. The Akolah jail has been completed; and, in its present condition, would do credit to the most advanced administration. The sense of cleanliness and method pervading it at the time of my visit to Berar in March last was of the kind which of itself forms to the native convict no inappreciable element in his punishment. The Oomrawuttee jail, also, has been nearly completed. Its accommodation, however, fell short during the year of the requirements of East Berar in this respect; and the surplus prisoners had to be lodged in tents. There has been some difference of opinion among the district authorities as to the precise extent of jail-accommodation necessary at Yeotmahal and Ellichpur; and the subject was still under consideration at the close of the year. The same want of suitable lock-ups which has been felt hitherto at Bassim and Buldanah exists there still; and will be supplied by degrees. The prisoners themselves were freely used during the year in jail-building; a daily average of 46·41 out of a total effective strength of 1,011·54 having been so employed.

Jail population.

117. A fair comparison between the returns of jail-population for 1868 and 1869 respectively is prevented by the circumstance that, in the former year, *under-trial* prisoners were included in one list with those regularly sentenced; whereas in the year under review the two descriptions of prisoners were registered separately. But apart from *under-trial* prisoners, who averaged 17·3 daily, the number of prisoners in 1869, namely 3,292, exceeded by 46 the gross jail-population in the preceding year, *under-trial* prisoners and all included; while the admissions to jail of sentenced prisoners only in 1869, which amounted to 2,014, exceeded by 24 the *gross* admissions of 1868. Of the total jail-population at the close of the year, about 10·5 per cent. consisted of old offenders. The number of juvenile prisoners on the last day of 1869 was 12, against 8 in the preceding year. The fact that this is the class for which there is best reason to hope for reformatory, and not merely punitive or deterrent, effects from imprisonment, is not lost sight of in the Berar jails; and regular instruction both in school-room and work-shop is imparted to them. Perhaps, however, a special juvenile reformatory for those belonging by descent to the criminal classes may be set down as one of the wants of this, and indeed of most other, administrations,—an institution resembling the School of Industry attached to the Thuggee Agency at Jabbalpur, to which the younger members of gangs of wandering and professional thieves might be consigned, as often as an opportunity occurred of separating them from those who can never teach them anything but evil.

An analysis of the jail registers, as they appeared on the last day of the year, shows that 85 per cent. of all those borne on the roll had described themselves as belonging to the agricultural and day-labouring classes. The remainder consisted of 60 sepoys; 21 writers; 40 shop-keepers; 5 tailors; 1 weaver; and 25 followers of divers other occupations. The proportion of Hindoos to Muhammadans was about 6 to 1.

Conduct of prisoners.

118. The conduct of the prisoners was satisfactory. The total number punished for breaches of jail-discipline, such as having tobacco or other forbidden luxuries in their possession, idleness at work, &c., amounted to 458, or 45·2 per cent. on the daily average strength, against 30 per cent. in 1868. This shows an increased measure of efficiency in point of prison discipline and supervision. Nine prisoners, however, effected their escape during the year: namely 4 from the Oomrawuttee, and 4 from the Akolah jail, with

one from a lock-up. The proportion of escapes to the daily average strength was thus 0·89 per cent. Last year it was 0·2 per cent. It is but fair to add that the 4 escapes from the Akolah jail occurred all at one time, namely during a dark night, and were primarily due to a defect in the jail-building itself.

Health of Prisoners.

119. A considerable improvement in the general health of the prisoners has characterized the year, the average sick-rate having fallen from 3·9 to 1·26, and the death-rate from 1·2 to 0·67. No epidemic occurred among the prisoners during the year.

Employment of Prisoners.

120. The modes in which the inmates of the jails were employed were as follows:—

	Daily averages.
Sick and infirm	30·91
Without labour—Civil and Revenue *	64·90
Un-employed (on account of Sundays)	140·09
On menial duties	163·80
On new jail-buildings	46·40
On public works outside jail	297·89
On manufactures	267·52
Total...	1,011·54

Of prisoners employed in manufactures, the average earnings per head amounted to rupees 34-1-0 (£3 8*s.* 1*d.*) per annum. Those again who were set to work on the roads and at jail-building scored an average of rupees 58-6-8 (£5 16*s.* 10*d.*) per man, calculating the work of each as worth two-thirds of what it would cost to hire a free labourer the same period of time. These results are due partly to the abnormally high rates of wages prevalent in Berar, and partly, perhaps, to the system of intra-mural labour not being as yet very skilfully organized. So far as they go, they certainly do not point to the expediency of carrying jail-manufactures to any very great extent, especially as there seem grounds for the conclusion that labour on common public works, under due method and supervision, more fully realizes what is contemplated by a sentence of HARD LABOUR than the usual kinds of intra-mural employment can be regarded as doing.

Cost of Prisoners.

121. Owing to the cost of maintenance of *under-trial* and sentenced prisoners having been shown in one lump sum in the returns for 1868, while only

* Only two of those who had escaped had been reported as re-captured at the close of the year.

the expenditure on account of the latter was reckoned under this head for 1869, it is impossible to compare the results of the two years respectively, in regard to expenditure on prisoners. During 1869, however, the aggregate outlay thus incurred amounted to Government rupees 89,920-7-11 (£8,992 1*s.*,) which gives a gross average of rupees 88-14-3 (£8 17*s.* 9*d.*) per prisoner. And, as the total earnings of prisoners from all sources was rupees 29,779-6-2 (£2,980,) at an average of rupees 29-7-0 (£3) per head, the balance, namely rupees 60,141-1-9 (£6,014 2*s.* 2*d.*) represents the net cost of prisoners to the State for the year. The average net cost per prisoner was thus rupees 59-7-3 (£5 19*s.*) In explanation of so high an average, the dearness of provisions which prevails in Berar deserves to be borne in mind. Nevertheless, now that a special officer has assumed charge of the provincial jail-administration, and addressed himself more systematically than may hitherto have been practicable to the solution of all the problems connected with this subject, I shall be much disappointed if decided improvement in a fiscal point of view fail to be effected; not only by means of economic reform in the matter of prison-dietary,—though under this head also certain improvements have already suggested themselves to the Inspector General,—but more especially in regard to jail-contingencies, which are always apt to assume unreasonable proportions when not subjected to the closest and most practical supervision. It should also be possible to create, under the new *regime*, a larger offset against expenditure, in the form of receipts from convict-labour, than has up to this time accrued; without at all endangering the objects for which prisons themselves are maintained, namely the infliction of *bonâ fide* punishment on all who are consigned to them for that purpose.

CHAPTER II.

REVENUE.

The treaty stipulations under which we hold Berar, as reviewed in the introductory paragraphs of this Report, have the effect of imparting to the financial administration of the province this notable peculiarity, namely, that it has only its own charges to bear, and enjoys a complete immunity from those which belong to the Indian Empire by whose officers it is administered. Therefore no portion of its revenue goes to compensate for the shortcomings of less fertile tracts in other parts of India; and economy or the reverse in the building of barracks for European soldiers, and in all the branches of imperial expenditure generally, makes no difference in its balance sheet at the end of the year. So scrupulously just are we indeed towards His Highness the Nizam in this respect that even the rest-houses for detachments of British troops passing through Berar, which had recently to be erected within the limits of the province itself, were paid for from the Imperial, and not from the Berar exchequer.

122. The above highly favouring condition is rendered still more so by the fertility of the soil of Berar itself, much of which lay fallow for years previous to the assignment; and, above all, by its forming the very home of the cotton-plant, and heart of the cotton-trade, in India.

123. And the result of the whole is this, that the revenue of these districts defrays the cost of an administrative machinery as expensive as that of most other non-regulation provinces; supplies the means of fairly developing the local resources,—witness the Khamgaon and Jhellum railway completed during the past year, and the branch to Oomrawuttee since commenced,—supports a far larger military establishment than the province itself has any occasion for, namely the Hyderabad Contingent; and, after all, yields a considerable annual surplus in cash. If every administration in India could be made to supply its own wants as effectively as Berar does; to contribute to the defence of the Empire at large in the same proportion in which Berar does to that of His Highness the Nizam's territory; and, lastly, to yield,

without anything approaching to direct taxation being resorted to, as considerable a cash balance as that which accrues from Berar, then, one of the pressing administrative problems of the present day would be solved.

124. The several elements which entered into the above general results as regards the past year in particular have now to be recorded.

SECTION I.—LAND TAX.

System of Settlement.

125. Without ascribing to the *raiatwaree* system of land tenure which has prevailed from time immemorial in Berar undue preponderance among the other causes of the prosperity of the province, it may yet be fairly said that a settlement which fixes the revenue assessment, not on the village as a whole, but on its several fields, or parcels of ground, separately, and, while securing to every cultivator a thirty years' tenure should such prove on actual trial convenient to him, yet leaves him free to enlarge or diminish the extent of his holding at the close of every year, has proved, as was to be expected, admirably suited to conditions like those existing in these districts, where the cultivators have been steadily increasing in number owing to immigration from various quarters, and where a remarkable increase in the area under cultivation, and in the value of the land itself, has been going on. In illustration of this subject, the following passage may be quoted from the annual Report by the Commissioner of West Berar:—

"Under our system of settlement," writes Mr. Lyall, "the barometer by which a new assessment is tested is the annual rent-roll of the district, not, as under the Zameendaree system, the annual statement of balances outstanding. We know when cultivation is falling off by the state of our demand; whereas a Revenue Collector in Bengal is left to discover it from the insolvency of the Zameendars. Men will throw up an over-assessed field, but not a village; and a new survey excites a rush for fresh land."

Demand.

126. The above remarks fully stand the test of the results about to be recorded for the year under review. On turning to the actual figures, it appears that the de-

mand for the year on account of land-revenue, strictly so called, was rupees 44,80,904 (£448,090,) against rupees 43,48,761 (£434,876) in the previous year.* The large increase of rupees 1,32,143 (£13,214) has, therefore, to be noted under this head alone; and is due partly to the total area under cultivation having been increased in the course of the year by about 313,654 acres; partly to the completion of the revenue survey in certain districts; and, in a lesser degree, also to the resumption of unauthorized alienations which has resulted from the enquiry into rent-free holdings that has been in progress. Thus, in the Buldanah district alone, 63,000 acres of fresh land were placed under cultivation during the year; while the introduction into the same district of the new survey rates, led during the same period to an increase in the demand realizable on account of the original holdings to the amount of rupees 31,124 (£3,112.) This result speaks well for the new assessment.

Collections.

127. Of the actual realizable land-revenue demand of the year, rupees 44,60,404 (£446,040) were collected, besides rupees 15,652 (£1,565) on account of outstandings of former years. In a very small percentage of cases indeed had coercive measures to be used, on account of the State-demand; and in only two instances had distraint to be resorted to.

Balances.

128. The balances at the close of the year were accordingly inconsiderable; being rupees 20,499-12-2 (£2,050) on account of the collections of the year itself, and rupees 7,789-5-0 (£779) on account of un-realized outstandings of former years.

Date of payment of revenue instalments.

129. Judging from the facility with which the land tax is realized, and from the general indications of prosperity which pervade the province, I cannot arrive at any other conclusion than that the dates on which the revenue instalments are now held to be due, namely the 15th January and 15th March, are about the best

* In last year's Administration Report a sum of rupees 1,47,112 (£14,711,) which belonged in reality to the heading of miscellaneous, and included such items as proceeds of pasture lands and of fruit trees, was shown under the general heading of land-tax. In the accounts for 1869, however, all particulars of the above description have been shown separately, and credited either to miscellaneous land-revenue, or to forest collections, according to the nature of the several items. Therefore, for comparison sake, a corresponding deduction has been made from the gross returns included under this head in the previous year.

that could be fixed for that purpose. This matter has formed, as Government is aware, somewhat of a vexed question in Berar revenue administration ever since the possibility suggested itself in 1868, that the undue prevalence of litigation which at that time began to attract attention in the principal district of West Berar might be caused by the revenue instalments falling due before the spring and autumn crops respectively were ready for the market, so as to compel the cultivators to have recourse to the money-lenders, and hypothecate the un-reaped produce of their fields in order to raise funds to meet the State-demands.* Government having directed my special attention to the above subject, in reply to the remarks which I had submitted regarding it, I can only record the conclusion just stated as the result of the fullest enquiry and consideration, namely, that it is neither necessary nor advisable to alter the dates now prescribed. It is also worthy of mention that the decrease in litigation in the Akolah district which was recorded in the preceding chapter has occurred while these dates remained as before, which seems to throw still further doubt on the supposition at one time hazarded on this subject.

Advances to cultivators.

130. Happily, no necessity arose for assisting the cultivators with advances of the kind known as *takâuwee* during 1869. The subject of these re-payable grants has, however, as Government is aware, been under consideration. It would obviously be advantageous at once to the landholder, to the province, and to the State, if the farmers could be induced and enabled by means of such advances to undertake small irrigational or other works of permanent utility for the improvement of their holdings and the development of their resources agriculturally. As soon as the orders of Government are received with reference to certain views bearing on this subject which were submitted a short time ago, a set of rules for the purpose of defining the objects and regulating the grant of advances of this nature will be forwarded for final sanction.

Village expenses.

131. The village expenses amounted to rupees 6,75,116 (£67,511) in 1869; against rupees 7,49,855 (£74,985) in 1868; which is at the rate of 14·76 per cent. on the gross land-revenue. In estimating the real incidence of the revenue-demand on the cultivator, the amount of village expenses, plus 1 *per cent.* road cess, 1 *per cent.* education cess, and 6¼ *per cent.* village-police cess, have all to be taken into

* *Vide* page 18, para. 55 of Administration Report for 1867.

account; so that the aggregate rate of the land tax must be stated at rupees 1-0-11 (2*s.* 1*d.*) per acre.

Eenam enquiries.

132. The work of the officers deputed to the conduct of enquiries into rent-free holdings, after having extended over a period of five years, has been nearly brought to completion during 1869, only a few claims remaining for decision. The following table indicates approximately the extent of land alienated in Berar and the nature and object of the grant :—

No. of Jageer Villages.	Eenam Lands.		Percentage, in acres, of alienated to unalienated land.
	Service Grants.	Religious and Charitable Grants.	
	Acres.	Acres.	
168 ...	17,584 ...	71,511 ...	·77

133. The operations of the Survey department during the year will be reviewed in a separate chapter.

Rain-fall.

134. The rain-fall of 1869, though aggregating on an average 35 inches, was less seasonable than could have been wished; and its effect on the spring and autumn harvests was, therefore, such as to cause occasional apprehensions for the safety of the crops. Fortunately, jawaree, which forms the food of all the poorer classes, gave an abundant yield. And, on the whole, the year has not been much behind the general average of past seasons, save in the important staple of cotton.

SECTION II.—OTHER TAXES.

Customs.

135. The results about to be noted under this heading are obtained from the report furnished by the Commissioner of the Imperial Inland Customs Department, under whose supervision the Berar Customs line is placed.

136. Salt forms in Berar the one taxed staple; and the revenue yielded by it in 1869, compared with that of the previous year, is thus shown:—

Year.	Salt.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Increase.	
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Total percentage.
1868-69	3,00,292 8 6	2,508 7 8	3,02,801 0 2	....	.....
1869-70	3,15,008 5 4	3,517 7 11	3,18,525 13 3	15,724 13 1	5·1

The above results will be thought all the more satisfactory when it is noted that the rate of duty was reduced during the year from rupees 1-8-0 (3*s.*) to rupees 1-3-0 (2*s.* 4*d.*) per maund.

137. The cause of the increase is ascribed by the Commissioner of Customs to the development of the demand which is the natural consequence of the people of Berar having to rely more and more exclusively on legalized supplies. This view is borne out by the fact recorded that the salt imported into Berar in 1869 exceeded the quantity imported in 1868 by 32,580 maunds, or 16·27 per cent.

The increase under the heading of miscellaneous receipts is mainly due to the accident of an unusually large seizure of contraband salt having been made in one of the sub-divisions.

The charges amounted to rupees 1,28,067-8-10 (£12,807,) or rupees 6,715-11-1 (£671) less* than in 1868, certain important modifications in the organization of the section, which will reduce the outlay from rupees 11,582 (£1,158,) to rupees 6,439-8-0 (£644) per mensem not having come into operation till near the close of the year.

No alteration in the course of trade was perceptible during the year. This follows well-defined lines, entering, to the extent of 99·74 *per cent.* on the whole imports, by the railway station at Malkapur, whence the salt is distributed from depôts like Sheagaon and Badnaira to minor marts throughout Berar. The price of salt at Badnaira, the principal salt mart in Berar, seems to have averaged rupees 5-2-9 (10*s.*) per maund, or about seven seers and 12 chittaks per rupee.

* Charges for 1868-69 are now shown at rupees 1,34,783-3-11 (£13,478,) instead of rupees 1,28,297-13-11 (£12,829,) as stated in last year's report. The difference rupees 6,485-6-0 (£648,) under a misapprehension, was omitted to be brought to account.

The following account of the Lonar lake in West Berar is extracted from the report of the Deputy Commissioner of Customs, and will be read with interest:—

"The Buldanah District contains a natural curiosity, known as the Lonar lake, of which from the very first installation of the line, the peculiarities attracted departmental attention and enquiry. Its waters were, to all appearance, distinctly alkaline, their produce, both by local residents and by district authorities, was declared to be merely carbonate of soda, the existence of which, in vastly preponderating measure, was determined by the then Custom's Analyst. In six specimens of water, he found an average of only 8·66 of common salt, and out of these six, the average, in five cases,* was but 3·40. The carbonate of soda which, during the hot-season, is extracted by spontaneous solar evaporation (no vats or terraces being used as in ordinary salt-works) is exported, mostly to Jaulnah—a small portion only being consumed at Lonar itself in soap and glass-making—the glass, thus made, being exclusively devoted to production of the wristlets worn by native women. The right of recovering the carbonate of soda is leased out, for a term of three years by the District authorities, for the sum of rupees 2,000, and the present contract will expire in November 1871. Such was the information first elicited, and it appeared to warrant freedom from any anxiety, such as the significance of the name "Lonar" had naturally aroused, as to the nature of the produce of this very remarkable locality,† and its effect on the salt-revenue."

"Still as *some* salt was known to exist in combination, suspicion was not entirely lulled; and our local officers were placed under injunction to watch the working of the lake, and to bring to notice whatever might at any time appear to show that, after all, the alkali, ostensibly its solitary product might yield more or less of alimentary salt."

"In November of 1868 Mr. W. Clarke, Assistant Patrol of Rissood, reported that out of a despatch of eleven maunds of alkali he had picked certain crystals, which, on examination, proved to be alimentary salt, of a high quality, closely akin indeed to the celebrated sambhur salt, and on enquiry from this office, the same officer stated that these saline particles were but few in number, and not more than about three per cent. of the mass. While this intimation appeared to confirm the previous conviction that no danger to our revenue was to be apprehended from Lonar, it was

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* "The sixth specimen was of water contained in a small cistern, the other five being taken from the lake itself."

† "Dr. Warth, our first analyst, a trained scientific man, who has unfortunately been prevented by other pressing avocations from examining specimens, discovery of which has rendered this disertation necessary, furnishes the following information from a valuable German work, Karsten's Salinenkemde (art of salt-making) —

"Under the mud of this lake a stratum of carbonate of soda deposits The water is clear, its specific gravity is 102,765, or nearly equal to that of the water of the ocean The water has no disagreeable smell, but the mud is saturated with sulphuretted hydrogen." N. B This will account for the unpleasant odour, which ordinary observers attribute to the water itself. The carbonate accumulates slowly under the mud; it consists of :—

Soda	Na O	... ...	40·9
Carbonic Acid	C O_2	... ...	38·0
Water	H. O.	... ...	20·6
Insoluble matter		... ...	0 5
Sulphate of soda Na.	O. S. O_3	... ...	trace
			100·0"

still held desirable to obtain a special report on the lake, and from such a report, written late in December of 1869, by the officer abovenamed, Mr. W. Clarke, the following information was derived :—That the produce of the lake was divided into three classes, known as "Dhulla-khar," "Puppree-khar," and "Booshkee-khar," that of these three, the first named, procured mostly in the cold season, contained about fifteen seers to the maund (37·50 per cent.) of a very pure salt. This estimate was, by the Collector, reduced to one-half, on the ground that only distinct crystals would be edible. No information was tendered as to the quantity of Dhulla-khar annually produced, and, as this was obviously the first thing requisite to be known, the Collector was told to arrange for weighment at the post of Sindkhera, in which customs sub-division the lake is situate, of all despatches of Dhulla-khar, and for collection of duty on any excess of salt therein. An objection having been raised by the Commissioner of West Berar, on the score of interference with the contractor, to our examination at the place abovenamed, the Collector was directed to arrange for mere weighment at Lonar itself, where we had recently stationed a Sub-Assistant Patrol. Unfortunately, by the time this latter order reached the Collector, (and with the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner detained in Rajpootana, and the Collector on tour in one of the most inaccessible portions of his charge, a certain delay was inevitable,) the gathering of Dhulla-khar for the season was over, and the opportunity of determining whether the substance should be declared liable to taxation was thus lost."

"It might be impolitic, and would almost certainly be contrary to the views of the local authorities, to interfere with the terms of the present contract, which, as noted, will expire in November 1871; but between this and then there will be ample leisure to determine, by weighment on the spot of every despatch which leaves the lake, whether ground exists for recommending a modification or, in extremity, withdrawal, of the contract when its term runs out."

138. The best means of turning to account the products of the above curious natural lake are, as Government is aware, under careful consideration. Accurate information on the subject is meanwhile being collected; and a definite proposal will be submitted when the period for which the lake is let to its present holder draws near its termination. The contractor is understood to have profited largely during last season from his lease, under the terms of which he pays to Government annually a sum of rupees 6,500 (£650.)

Excise on liquor.

139. The Sadr distillery system, that is, the levy of a still-head duty at a limited number of protected distilleries has not been introduced in Berar, where the older method still obtains of holding annually at the Deputy Commissioner's office a sale by auction of the exclusive right of vending throughout a certain district spirituous or fermented liquors, and intoxicating drugs. The competition for the purchase of these monopolies is usually keen: and, whatever room for doubt there may be as to the merits of such a system as a means of fulfilling the true object of an excise on spirits, namely

the realizing of the largest possible revenue on the smallest consumption of liquor, there is no question about its tendency to produce the full tale of revenue leviable under this head.

140. The yield to Government during 1869-70 in the single item of country-made liquors was rupees 9,77,670 (£97,767,) against rupees 7,86,517 (£78,652) in 1868-69, showing an increase of rupees 1,91,153 (£19,115); while the sale of licenses for the vend of liquors manufactured in Europe produced rupees 5,609 (£561,) against rupees 8,488 (£849) in the preceding year. The decrease is attributed to several shops open in 1868 having been since closed.

141. The contracts for the sale of intoxicating drugs resulted in an increase of rupees 61,211-7-0 (£6,121) as compared with the preceding year, the figures for the two years respectively having been rupees 1,40,774-15-0 (£14,078) in 1869, against rupees 79,563 (£7,956) in 1868. The measures adverted to in last year's Administration Report as being then under consideration with the object of enabling those desirous of carrying on poppy cultivation in Berar to take up land for that purpose were introduced early in the year, but do not appear to have produced any results.

142. The total revenue demand under Abkaree for 1869 was rupees 11,45,139 (£114,514,) against rupees 8,66,080 (£86,608) in the previous year, showing an increase of rupees 2,79,059 (£27,906.) The sum of rupees 1,659 (£166) remained uncollected at the close of the year.

143. The above increase was not more marked in one Division of Berar than in the other; although the number of shops in West Berar was reduced by 70, while in East Berar the number of stills and liquor shops remained as before. Breaches of Abkaree rules now meet with punishment more promptly than they once did in Berar; but this seems to have no effect in diminishing the value of these contracts; the increasing prosperity of the people doubtless tending to produce a real increase in the demand for spirituous liquors. And the remark made in his review of this subject by the Commissioner of West Berar that the absence of drunkenness, and of crime committed by persons under the influence of intoxicating drugs, throughout his division furnishes sufficient proof that no undue stimulus is given to the consumption of these universally sought luxuries will be received with satisfaction.

Stamps.

144. The stamp revenue has increased from rupees 4,56,265 (£45,626) in 1868, to rupees 4,60,414 (£46,041) in 1869; and that although the

people were permitted for the first time in the year under review to write on both sides of the stamp paper. The latter concession attended the introduction during the year of a special or provincial stamp in supersession of the imperial stamps which were formerly in use. Under the old system, the stamped paper was supplied by the Bombay Government, who charged its actual cost to the Assigned Districts, *plus* that of transit charges, and five per cent. for departmental expenses. Although the sale proceeds of such stamps in Berar itself were, of course, credited to the provincial exchequer, yet, owing to the Bombay and the Berar stamp being identical in design, it must often have happened that stamps purchased in the one administration were made use of in the other, entailing in every such instance, a loss to the local stamp-revenue of either province. This seemed to call for correction: and as His Highness the Nizam's government expressed its willingness to supply, free of cost, a special kind of stamp for use in Berar alone, the measure was carried into effect, with the sanction of Government on the 1st of November, when the Berar treasuries had been supplied with sufficient quantities of the new stamp paper. Up to the close of the official year 5,11,123 stamp papers, representing an aggregate value of rupees 7,11,619 (£71,162) were received from the native government, and counter-impressed in the Resident's office. Of this supply, 4,62,708 stamp papers, amounting in value to rupees 6,34,030 (£63,403) were issued to Berar treasuries. The difference represents the quantity furnished to the Courts of the Cantonment Magistrate at Secunderabad, the Superintendent Residency Bazars, and Judicial Superintendent of Railways at Kulbargah, and the balance kept in hand at the Residency office for issue on receipt of emergent indents.

The decrease in litigation which was noted in the preceding chapter has thus not involved any falling off in the stamp-revenue; which, on the contrary, has shown an increase, as has been shown, of rupees 4,149 (£415.)

SECTION III.—TOTAL REVENUES.

In the following table, the total provincial revenues of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for the past year are shown, and

compared with those of the previous year:—

	1868-69.	1869-70.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue	44,95,882	45,60,278	64,396	.....
Forest	84,634	1,84,388	99,754	.....
Abkaree	8,64,886	11,43,480	2,78,594	.....
Customs	3,20,797	3,27,821	7,024	.....
Law and Justice	73,145	1,33,610	60,465	.....
Police	55,811	70,542	14,731	.....
Public Works	1,68,376	90,704	.....	77,672
Interest	1,150	1,884	734	.....
Education	17,070	15,095	.....	1,975
Stamps	4,56,265	4,60,414	4,149	.....
Miscellaneous	7,995	34,152	26,457	.....
*Local Funds	6,15,966	4,58,925	.....	1,57,041
†Special Cesses	8,82,132	9,29,672	47,540	.....
Total	80,44,109	84,11,265	6,03,844	2,36,688
	£804,411	£841,126	£60,384	£23,669

145. The net increase of rupees 3,67,156 (£36,715) has thus accrued during the year under review, the realizations for the year 1868-69 having, in like manner, shown an increase of rupees 5,47,971 (£54,797) over those of the year which preceded it. There are no indications that the provincial revenues have even now arrived at their culminating point. On the contrary, a still further increase may be hoped for; though, when we take into consideration the fluctuations in the cotton trade which circumstances as yet unforeseen might at any time occur to produce, it is impossible to presume too far on such expectations.

	1868-69. Rupees.		1869-70. Rupees.
* Town Fund, Dispensary Fund, Pound Fund	4,90,306	...	3,42,506
Road Fund, Staging Bungalow Fund, Ferry Fund	71,524	...	65,329
Bazar Fee Fund	41,548	...	43,387
Railway Cotton Fee Fund	1,870	...	.....
Cotton Improvement Fund	106	...	.....
Banjarah Cess Fund	10,612	...	7,238
General Police Fund	.....	...	465
Total	6,15,966	...	4,58,925
† Educational Cess Fund.	68,327	...	63,423
Chowkeedaree Cess Fund	63,950	...	1,91,133
Village Expenses Fund	7,49,855	...	6,75,116
Total	8,82,132	...	9,29,672
Grand Total	14,98,098	...	13,88,597
	(£149,810)	...	(£138,860)

CHAPTER III.

PUBLIC WORKS.

146. The Public Works Department of this Administration consists altogether of five divisions, independently of the Hyderabad State Railway. Only four of these divisions pertain, however, to the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, and include in their scope not merely the Assigned Districts but the cantonments of the Hyderabad Contingent, which, though situated, with one exception, outside of Berar itself, yet form, as is well-known, in all points of expenditure, charges against the revenues of that province.

147. The divisions of the Public Works Department which are thus connected with the Assigned Districts were only three in number during 1868; namely West Berar, East Berar, and Aurungabad. During the year under review, a fourth division was formed, called the Khamgaon Railway Division.

148. The whole of these divisions are under a Superintending Engineer, who has the powers of a Chief Engineer, and is also Secretary to the Resident in the Public Works Department. A share of his salary in proportion to expenditure incurred is met from Imperial sources.

149. The staff, as sanctioned by the Government of India, stood as follows during the year :—

1 Superintending Engineer, First Class.

General Branch.

3 Executive Engineers.
4 Assistant Engineers.
14 Upper Subordinates.

Railway.

1 Executive Engineer.
1 Assistant Engineer.
2 Upper Subordinates.

Of the above, one Assistant Engineer and six Upper Subordinates were wanting to complete the full strength at the end of the year.

The Accounts branch consisted of—

1 Controller, Fifth Class.

Central Office.

3 Accountants.

Divisional Offices.

3 Accountants.

Railway.

1 Accountant.

A portion of the salaries of this Branch also is defrayed from Imperial sources.

150. The expenditure incurred during the year on works chargeable to the revenue of Berar is shown in detail in the concluding section of this chapter. The following is a summary of the figures: *viz.* :—

	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Military	18,955	7,562	26,517
Agricultural	1,101	126	1,227
Civil Buildings	2,25,423	6,276	2,31,699
Communications	1,31,450	23,814	1,55,264
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	6,000	.....	6,000
			4,20,707
Establishment		.....	1,02,222
Tools and Plant		.....	15,841
Profit and Loss		.....	28
		Total.....	5,38,798
			(£53,879)

151. The allotment granted for the year amounted to rupees 7,50,000 (£75,000) [independent of railway charges]; but, from various causes, principally owing to deficiency of establishment,

the expenditure fell short of this sum by rupees 2,11,202 (£ 21,120.) The chief shortcomings were under the heads of Civil Buildings and Communications.

SECTION I.—MILITARY BUILDINGS.

152. A sum of rupees 26,507 (£ 2,650) only was spent on Military Buildings, including repairs. No works of any importance were undertaken; but a few general improvements were carried out at the stations of Bolarum, Hingolee, and Lingsoogoor. A new hospital was sanctioned by the Government of India for Hingolee, capable of accommodating 24 patients, at a total cost of rupees 28,863 (£ 2,886); but sanction was received too late to permit of much progress being effected, and only a few materials were collected. One wing, with administrative block, is to be completed first.

SECTION II.—CIVIL BUILDINGS.

153. This head includes all buildings pertaining to the Civil Administration, such as Revenue, Judicial, Post Office, Telegraph, Ecclesiastical, &c.

154. In connection with the Revenue department, a sum of rupees 1,10,831 (£ 11,083) was expended on buildings, &c., including repairs. The principal works in hand were as follows; *viz.*: Cutcherry for Tahseeldar at Julgaon, including accommodation for Police; Cutcherry for Deputy Commissioner at Bassim; two iron sheds for the temporary accommodation of the Deputy Commissioner's Office at Bassim; Cutcherries for Tahseeldars at Oomrawuttee and Yeotmahal, and also for the Deputy Commissioners at Woon and Ellichpur. The Commissioner's Court-house at Oomrawuttee was completed and handed over; as also the Small Cause Court at the same station. The full number of Court-houses now built, or in hand, are as follows, namely: two for Commissioners, both of which have been completed; five for Deputy Commissioners; three for Assistant Commissioners; and seven for Tahseeldars. This branch of the administration will thus, it is hoped, in a few years be fully accommodated.

Court-houses.

Post-offices.

155. Four new buildings for post-offices were in progress during the year, namely, at Bassim, Buldanah, Akote, and Oomrawuttee. One at Yeotmahal has been sanctioned, but not commenced. Eight others had been completed in previous years, namely, at Akolah, Khamgaon, Malkapur, Nandoora, Sheagaon, Ellichpur, Chandoor, and Murtizapur, making thirteen in all.

Telegraph Offices.

156. New Telegraph Offices at Khamgaon and Oomrawuttee were under construction. The office at Akolah has been accommodated in the old post-office; a building was recommended for Akote, but this work has been postponed.

Churches.

157. Under the head of Ecclesiastical, much has been done on a small scale. New churches were under construction both at Akolah and Ellichpur, and others under consideration for Bassim, Oomrawuttee, Yeotmahal, and Hingolee. These churches will contain sittings for about 50 persons; and are estimated to cost, on an average, about rupees 8,500 (£850,) with the exception of the one at Ellichpur, which contains 100 sittings, and will cost about rupees 15,000 (£1,500.) Private contributions for each have amounted to from rupees 3,000 (£300) to rupees 3,300 (£330); and Government has sanctioned grants-in-aid, as a rule amounting to rupees 5,000 (£500,) for each.

Cemeteries.

158. A cemetery at Badnaira was completed, the work consisting of a neat enclosure-wall, with a gothic entrance gate-way, forming also a small mortuary chapel. Others at Akolah and Oomrawuttee had been completed in previous years. The wants of Bassim and Yeotmahal in this respect are now under consideration.

Schools.

159. As regards buildings for the Educational Department, the school-house at Khamgaon, commenced in 1868, was completed. Materials were collected for an anglo-vernacular school at Bassim [towards the erection of which Government has sanctioned a grant-in-aid of rupees 8,000] (£800,) and also for erecting a village school at Sirpur; the expenditure on all these buildings being chargeable to local funds.

Jails and Police-stations.

160. The jail at Akolah, intended to accommodate 500 prisoners, and commenced in the year 1863, was completed last year according to sanctioned

design. The jail at Oomrawuttee (on precisely the same plan) was delayed owing to certain suggestions having been made by the Inspector General of Jails involving alterations in the interior arrangements. Police stations at Umrapur and Sirpur were built; and reserve lines for the police at Bassim and Yeotmahal were commenced; the work of re-roofing the old lines at Akolah and Oomrawuttee was also in progress during the year.

Miscellaneous works.

161. A commencement was made with the lecture-room and clinical ward sanctioned in connection with the medical school and hospital at Hyderabad for the educational requirements of medical students intended for employment in the Assigned Districts. Materials have been collected for erecting a small asylum for lunatics (to contain 40 persons) at Akolah, as soon as the project, which is undergoing revision, is sanctioned by Government; also for the erection of a hospital for the police and the civil establishments at Buldanah. The Forest department located at the Chikulda sanitarium, was urgently in want of accommodation; and an iron-shed, purchased from the Nagpur Municipality, was put up for its use. Two local fund works, namely, a hospital in connection with the Khamgaon dispensary, and a hospital and dispensary at Yeotmahal, were undertaken during the year; the former was finished, and the other was ready for roofing at the close of the year.

Town-Hall at Akolah.

162. In addition to the above civil buildings, a town hall at Akolah, estimated at rupees 30,084 (£3,008,) was commenced, and the walls were raised to the height of 15 feet above the basement. In the new square at Oomrawuttee, a clock tower, which had been commenced in the previous year, was completed up to first story.

SECTION III.—IRRIGATION.

163. During the year, an Executive Engineer was specially appointed to consider the question of Irrigation in Berar; but, unfortunately, delays took place owing to sickness, and afterwards on account of the monsoon. And thus the Executive Engineer was prevented from making more than a superficial *reconnaisance* of certain portions of the country. After the rains, he was transferred to the Hyderabad Railway survey; and consequently nothing

was determined on. A sum of rupees 10,000 (£ 1,000) was provided in the Budget for irrigation; but no works worthy of notice were carried out.

SECTION IV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Road from Bassim to Mallaigaon.

164. This important road, which is intended to connect Bassim and the Great Indian Peninsula Railway at Akolah, has made very creditable progress during the year. The whole of the earthwork—except the finishing off—may be said to be complete; and three miles of the road have been metalled with *moorum*, a species of gravel peculiar to the Deccan. Two culverts and 1 bridge of three arches 10′ span were finished, and 3 other bridges arched in, one of them (4 arches 15′ span) having been carried up to springing level. Materials were also collected at site of all other bridges and culverts proposed to be built along the line.

Road from Bassim to Hingolee.

165. This road will be a continuation of the above south-wards, and will connect the cantonment of Hingolee with the railway, besides tapping the adjoining cotton-producing country in His Highness the Nizam's dominions. A small sum was expended during the year in marking out and surveying the line, preparatory to the preparation of an estimate.

Re-metalling 10 miles of the Akolah Akote road.

166. This road had been so much cut up by traffic, that it was found absolutely necessary to recommend the re-metalling of 10 miles, where it had suffered most; but very little was done to carry out the work during the year, owing to the restriction imposed by Government that metal for one mile only should be prepared as an experiment before further expenditure was incurred.

Bridge across the Morna River, Akolah.

167. This bridge will consist of 6 spans of 60 feet, and of iron trusses resting on masonry (granite) piers. The founds of one abutment and 2 piers of this bridge have been excavated, and a very large quantity of material also collected. The iron-work for this bridge has been ordered from England.

Oomrawuttee and Ellichpur road.

168. This important railway feeder has been completed to full extent of estimate. It is bridged and drained throughout, excepting two of the largest streams; but much still remains to be done to finish the line.

Badnaira and Morsee road.

169. This work, commenced in 1862, has been proceeded with during the year. The road has been drained and bridged up to a distance of 15 miles from the town of Oomrawuttee, and the surfacing is reported as in good condition up to the 21st mile. Sanding and metalling the road with *moorum* were carried out during the year.

Aurungabad Nandgaon road.

170. This road, begun in 1862, is now almost finished; during the year some earthwork was done, and the laying on of a complete coat of metal from miles 23 to 42 put in hand. Four small masonry works were completed, and 10 others were in progress at the end of the year.

171. During the year, inspection bungalows at Pathoor and Khamgaon were commenced; two others at Sawurkheid and the Poorna were completed; as also a traveller's bungalow at Khamgaon.

SECTION V.—RAILWAYS.

Khamgaon State Railway.

172. Sanction to commence this work was received from the Government of India on the 31st of May 1869.

Mr. Carey, C. E., was at first appointed from the Central Provinces to the charge of the work, with Mr. Tyndall, C. E., as Assistant Engineer. Afterwards, for special reasons, Major Mead, Superintending Engineer, was deputed personally to superintend the works; and Mr. Izat, C. E., Executive Engineer, West Berar division, was placed in executive charge. To these latter officers is mainly due the very expeditious and satisfactory manner in which the railway was completed.

173. This line connects the cotton mart of Khamgaon in West Berar with the Great Indian Peninsula Railway at a station called Jhelum. The total length of line is seven and-a-half miles, entailing, with sidings, junctions, &c., a total length of rail of about eight miles.

174. The works were commenced nominally on the 9th of June 1869, but not actually till the 19th idem. On the 4th March 1870, the railway was officially opened for traffic.

175. His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased in person to open the line, the first State-railway, constructed by Government, which India has as yet witnessed. Among those who were present with me on the occasion were, His Highness the Nizam's Minister, the Nawwab Sir Salar Jung, K. C. S. I.; Brigadier-General H. D. Abbott, C. B., Commanding Hyderabad Contingent; J. H. Morris, Esq., Chief Commissioner of Central Provinces; C. U. Aitchison, Esq., C. S. I., Foreign Secretary to the Government of India; Major Nembhard, Commissioner of East Berar; A. C. Lyall, Esq., Commissioner of West Berar; L. R. Ashburner, Esq, Collector of Khandeish; most of the officers of the Berar administration; the chief officers of the G. I. P. Railway; and other visitors from Bombay and elsewhere.

176. The total expenditure on the work to the 31st March was rupees 3,92,726 (£ 39,272,) the details of which were as follows:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Rolling stock	245	9	3
Preliminary expenses	369	1	8
Construction of line	96,519	8	6
Ballast and permanent-way...	2,57,809	11	0
Station and buildings	10,285	10	3
Electric Telegraph	131	2	9
Plant...	2,460	7	6
Establishment	18,437	12	5
Contingencies	1,193	12	1
Suspense :—			
Stores	4,078	0	5
Miscellaneous advances	1,195	8	0
Total Rs...	3,92,726	3	9

177. The total estimate amounted to rupees 4,50,888 (£ 45,089); and the cost per mile of railway to rupees 60,120 (£ 6,012,) but per mile of rails laid, only rupees 56,360 (£ 5,636.)

178. Considering that for such a short line all terminal arrangements had to be made, the cost may be considered satisfactory.

179. As the line was only practically open for about 10 days during the year under report, when all arrangements were most incomplete, it would be useless to attempt to draw any practical conclusions from the traffic returns.

Oomrawuttee Railway.

180. Towards the close of the year, the Government of India sanctioned the appointment of an Executive Engineer and Staff for the commencement of this line. Mr. Steell, a Civil Engineer, employed on the south-eastern extension of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, was appointed to the charge; but it was then too late to commence operations.

SECTION VI.—LOCAL FUNDS AND MUNICIPAL.

181. The works constructed under these headings are undertaken by Local Fund Engineers, under the orders of the Civil authorities, independently of those mentioned in the previous sections as carried out by the Public Works Department.

182. It appears that during the year the amount at the disposal of the local district officers and municipalities aggregated rupees 11,32,169 (£113,217,) while the total disbursements amounted to rupees 3,99,795 (£39,979.)

183. Committees under the Municipal Act XV. of 1867 in the towns of East and West Berar remain as mentioned in last year's Administration Report, namely, at Ellichpur, Oomrawuttee, and Yeotmahal in East Berar; and at Akolah, Khamgaon, and Bassim in West Berar. It has not been considered necessary to organize committees in any other towns; but the limits of the towns to which the jurisdiction of the existing committees extend have been defined and notified. Special rules under Section 7 of the Act have been framed and published for general guidance.

Civil Buildings.

184. A cholera hospital and native doctor's house were constructed at Akolah at a cost of rupees 7,479 (£748.) Charitable dispensaries at Akote, Julgaon, Buldanah, and Woon were also undertaken, and are in progress of completion.

185. Out of 16 school-houses commenced in 1869-70 in the several districts, 4 have been finished; and 12 are in fair progress towards completion.

186. A slaughter-house was erected in the Ellichpur Cantonment at a cost of rupees 3,362 (£ 336.)

187. A work-shop at Buldanah intended as an artizan's school has been undertaken, and is nearly finished.

Communications and Roads.

188. A road from the Oomrawuttee jail to Roodgaon was constructed during the year at a cost of rupees 5,521 (£ 552.) Roads have also been made from Akolah to several of the towns in the Akolah District at a cost of rupees 2,024 (£ 202.) A sum of rupees 20,740 (£ 2,074) was expended in opening out communications, and improving the fair-weather and village roads generally.

189. Rest-houses at Khamgaon and Akote have been commenced; and similar accommodation for travellers has also been provided at other towns of the several Districts.

190. The realizations of the road cess, including the sums due for previous years, amounted to rupees 65,097 (£ 6,509,) out of which rupees 42,292 (£ 4,229) have been expended.

Irrigation.

191. A dam across the river Morna below the town of Akolah has been constructed at a cost of rupees 215-6-0 (£ 21.) This work, though erected at a trifling expense, is worthy of mention for its usefulness.

Miscellaneous.

192. Satisfactory progress has been made in improving the condition of the towns; and the several Municipal Committees have worked well, and carried out many important improvements. In respect to Akolah, the Deputy Commissioner of the District states that, when the building for the town-hall, museum, and library is finished, the town, with the improvements already effected, will be "second to none" in Berar. He also asserts from his own experience that these improvements have resulted in the increased general healthiness of the place.

SECTION VII.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

The following Statement shows the expenditure incurred in the Public Works Department during the year:—

DETAIL.	Total of each Station.			Total of each Class.		
	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.						
MILITARY.						
Buildings for the accommodation of Native Troops:—						
Lingsoogoor	1,327	...	1,327			
Hingolee	1,711	...	1,711			
Bolarum	768	...	768			
				3,806	...	3,806
General Cantonment works and roads...	...	...	...	5,962	...	5,962
Minor works	...	...	...	9,187	7,562	16,749
Total Military...	...	...	...	18,955	7,562	26,517
				£ 1,895	£ 756	£ 2,651
AGRICULTURAL.						
Minor Irrigation works	...	...	...	1,101	126	1,227
Total Agricultural...	...	...	...	1,101	126	1,227
				£ 110	£ 12	£ 122
CIVIL BUILDINGS.						
Buildings for the administration of Law and Justice	...	...	...	56,886	...	56,886
Buildings for the Revenue Department	...	...	...	1,08,674	2,157	1,10,831
Ecclesiastical	...	...	...	10,368	...	10,368
Educational	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Public Buildings	...	...	...	49,495	...	49,495
Minor works	...	...	...	...	4,119	4,119
Total Civil Buildings...	...	...	...	2,25,423	6,276	2,31,699
				£ 22,542	£ 627	£ 23,170
COMMUNICATIONS.						
Road from Aurungabad to Nandgaon ..	9,194	13,412	22,606			
Road from Akolah to Akote	532	...	532			
Road from Mallaigaon to Ba sim ...	58,036	...	58,036			
Road from Morsee to Badnaira ...	14,790	...	14,790			
Metalling the road from Badnaira to Oomrawuttee...	6,018	...	6,018			

DETAIL.	Total of each Station. Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.	Total of each Class. Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
COMMUNICATIONS.—*(continued.)*						
Road from Oomrawuttee to Ellichpur..	3,364	1,857	5,221			
Roads in the Sadr station of Bassim.....	940	...	940			
Do. Badnaira	3,792	...	3,792			
Road from Akolah to Mallaigaon ...	...	4,601	4,601			
				96,666	19,870	1,16,536
Bridge across the Morena river at Akolah...	...	...	...			
				17,888	...	17,888
Inspection Bungalow at Khamgaon ...	2,075	...	2,075			
Do. at Patboor ...	2,911	...	2,911			
Do. at Poorna ...	3,446	...	3,446			
Do. at Sawurkheid ...	3,748	....	3,748			
				12,180	...	12,180
Minor works	...	....	...	4,716	3,944	8,660
Total Communications...	...	....	...	1,31,450	23,814	1,55,264
				£ 13,145	£ 2,381	£ 15,526
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.						
Town Hall at Akolah (expenditure against Imperial grant-in-aid) ...	...	...	...	6,000	—	6,000
Total Miscellaneous Public Improvements	...	...	...	6,000	...	6,000
						£ 600
Total works	...	...	...	3,82,929	37,778	4,20,707
Establishment...	...	...	...	...	..	1,02,222
Tools and Plant	...	...	...	...	..	15,841
Profit and Loss	...	...	...	...	..	28
Total Ordinary Expenditure, Public Works proper	...	...	...	...	..	5,38,798
						£ 53,879
RAILWAY.						
Khamgaon Branch Railway	...	...	...	2,31,349	..	2,31,349
Grand Total Ordinary Expenditure, Public Works and Railway... ...	...	...	...	...	..	7,70,147
						£ 77,014

NOTE.—The Stock Balance has increased by rupees 4,270, which, added to the actual expenditure on works, &c, gives an outlay of rupees 7,74,417 from the Budget grant of the year, thus :—

	Rupees.	
Public Works proper	5,43,068	
Railways	2,31,349	
		Rupees 7,74,417 (£ 77,442)

CHAPTER IV.

EDUCATION.

Educational Staff.

193. The administrative and executive Staff of the educational department received no modification during the year; and consisted as before of a Director of Public Instruction; two Divisional Inspectors; six Deputy Educational Inspectors; and 505 Schoolmasters of all grades.

194. The practical supervision of the department, though primarily, of course, belonging to the Director and his Assistants, is considered at the same time to form part of the charge of every officer of the civil administration. Indeed the influence of the latter could hardly be better employed than in leavening the agricultural masses, and the people generally, with a just appreciation of the value of education, if not for themselves, at all events for their children. And, as the result of all that has been done, it is gratifying to find the energetic Director of Instruction, Dr. Sinclair, able to record that the "number of persons now receiving instruction is nearly eight times what it was four years ago," (that is on the first formation of the department); that then, "Hindoo boys only attended school, now Hindoos and Muhammadans of both sexes:" while the "gradual spreading of education amongst the Koonbees and other castes, besides the Brahmans, and among the Muhammadans, is the most noticeable feature in the returns of the past two years."

General results of year.

195. The general results of the year as regards education were as follows:—

	1868.	1869.	Increase.	Increase *per cent.*	Total expenditure. 1868.	Total expenditure. 1869.
Number of schools of all classes ...	335	339	4	1		
Number of scholars of all classes ...	12,207	14,862	2,655	21		
Average daily attendance	9,785	11,264	1,479	15		
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Expenditure from general revenues.	2,06,051	2,37,210	31,159	15		
Expenditure from municipal funds .	952	1,161	209	22	2,39,793	2,76,603
Expenditure from local cesses ...	32,790	38,232	5,442	17	£ 23,979	£ 27,660

Thus, expansion under every head marked the course of 1869. The increase in the number of schools would have been greater, had not financial causes prevented sanction being given during the year to one hundred new schools for the extension of primary education which Dr. Sinclair had contemplated opening. It appears, however, that about every fifty square miles of the province has now its school; while one in about every 150 of the population is under instruction. These results—though certainly leaving much room for further progress—are highly satisfactory when it is considered that the introduction into Berar of a State system of education was inaugurated so recently as 1866. No special explanation has been afforded by the Director on the subject of the increase of expenditure which occurred during the period under review; but it is understood to be due to the educational staff having been maintained throughout the year at its proper strength, which in the previous year it was not; and to the purchase of maps and other educational appliances. The cause of education in Berar does not as yet owe much to voluntary donations or subscriptions, and the burden of the work falls to a considerable extent upon the provincial revenues. At Khamgaon, however, the inhabitants came forward during the year, and undertook to defray from their own pockets one-half the cost of a girls' school which had been opened some time before for their use, the other half continuing to be paid from the general revenue. And a similar arrangement was made at Yeotmahal in the case of a school which was established by the Christian community for the education of their own and other children. Full details have not been received regarding the latter praiseworthy institution; but it is believed to have made a promising commencement, mainly through the care bestowed upon it by the Reverend the Chaplain of Berar.

Contributions of the people themselves for educational objects.

196. The Director of Public Instruction records it as his opinion that at present education is gradually becoming popular throughout the province; and that, till this feeling gains ground, it would not be judicious to press the people over-much for contributions towards its diffusion. It doubtless admits of being said that the mere fact of the people availing themselves of the educational facilities which Government has provided for them hardly bespeaks on their part any very decided appreciation of the advantages of education; and that one of the first symptoms of these advantages becoming really impressed upon their minds would be their uniting to supply

at least to some extent their own wants in this respect. But then it has to be remembered that the native, when he has paid his taxes, more especially when the educational cess happens to form one of their number, is apt to feel that his duties are ended, and that every subsequent responsibility belongs to Government, and to Government alone. And, considering the condition of the native mind on the subject of education, perhaps we must rest content for a little time with the beginning that has been made when even their acceptance of it at the hands of the State has been more or less generally secured. Nevertheless, in avoiding the danger alluded to by Dr. Sinclair of "pressing the people overmuch for contributions," the appearance of a spirit of increased enlightenment and liberality among them in this matter must be anxiously looked for; so that, while the State discharges its part towards them in an educational point of view, their own efforts in the same direction may be more largely elicited than is now actually the case. It may be that Dr. Sinclair has not been altogether as successful as he might have been in stimulating the people of the province to initiate a more liberal policy in this respect; and the importance of blending with his exertions for the establishment of Government schools an increased measure of care for the *extension* of education by means of the gradual conversion of Government schools into grant-in-aid schools has once more been very strongly urged upon his attention.

Apportionment of educational grant and cess.

197. On the subject of the apportionment of the total sums expended on education, the Director writes as follows:—

"When submitting a scheme for grading the schools of the province, I availed myself of the opportunity then offered of re-arranging the schools so as to bring strictly into operation the principle of applying the educational cess for the benefit of the agricultural class only. The history of the growth of the department since November 1866 will show the necessity of this re-arrangement. At first there were only provincial funds; and schools were established from them whether in towns or in villages, the places in which there was any desire for education receiving priority of attention. In the next stage, there were no provincial funds to spare for the opening of new schools; and schools whether in the towns or in the villages were opened, according to the degree of demand for them, from the cess funds which had by this time been sanctioned. The result has been that in some villages of purely agricultural inhabitants, schools were established from the general revenues; while some of the towns were supplied from the cess. The revised lists submitted during the year made all the schools of a higher character, and belonging to the towns, chargeable to the general revenues, and left the educational cess to be employed on the village schools."

Distribution of expenditure.

198. The distribution of the expenditure may be thus shown:—

	Percentage on total expenditure.
Direction and inspection	... 19·84
High class education for boys	... 6·54
Middle class education for boys	... 24·68
Lower class education for boys	... 37·88
Lower class education for girls	... 3·15
Training school for masters	... 0·53
Scholarships	... 1·85
Books and prize allowance	... 0·99
Government book-depôt*	... 4·54

Subjects of instruction; and its spread among the different classes of the people respectively.

199. The languages taught, and the spread of instruction, may be tabulated as follows:—

Years.	Castes.	No. of pupils.	Languages.			
			English.	Sanskrit.	Marhattee.	Hindoostanee.
1868-69.	Brahmans	3,004	1,670	895	10,472	1,754
	Koonbees	2,704				
	Other Hindoos	4,486				
	Muhammadans	1,988				
	Others	25				
	Total	12,207				
1869-70.	Brahmans	3,195	1,639	381	12,988	1,895
	Koonbees	3,067				
	Other Hindoos	6,238				
	Muhammadans	2,287				
	Others	75				
	Total	14,862				
	Increase	2,655	.....	.....	2,516	141
	Decrease	.....	31	514	.....	.....

* The central book depôt at Akolah has hitherto supplied the agency for the sale of educational and instructive works in Berar. As it was thought that this plan did not perhaps sufficiently meet the wants of outlying schools, branch depôts were established last year at all the middle class schools; and Deputy Inspectors, when on tour, were instructed to carry books with them for sale. Books are also supplied freely to the indigenous schools, whenever applied for by the masters or pupils.

The expenditure for establishment and purchase of books, &c., during 1869-70 amounted to rupees 15,300 (£ 1,530,) and the value of the books sold at the central depôt, or forwarded to the branch depôts, during the same period was rupees 14,410-2-9 (£ 1,441.) Altogether rupees 3,156-13-9 (£ 316) were paid into the Treasury on account of amounts realized by sales of books.

Vernacular Instruction.

200. Thus the year was marked by a slight decrease in the number of pupils learning English; which must, doubtless, be regarded as a wholesome indication. It shows that the tendency is being checked which would set boys to read English before they have been grounded in their own vernacular; and, in the case of many, would encourage them to consume the whole period of their too brief school days in learning to read the Deserted Village, and the story of Androcles and the Lion, as if such were what is meant by education. In order to repress so false a system, it is now made compulsory on every pupil to join the vernacular classes; while English and Sanskrit rank as optional subjects of instruction. And, as a further means towards the same end, the fees for the vernacular classes were last year reduced by one-half; those for English and Sanskrit being left as before. Marhattee forms the vernacular of the province; and, as such, has been declared the language of the law-courts. Hindoostanee also is tolerably current, at least in the towns. With the view of encouraging vernacular literature in Berar, rewards were offered, early in the year, for approved works in Marhattee or Hindoostanee by residents of the province itself. Four Marhattee and three Hindoostanee essays formed the result; but the award of the committee of native gentlemen appointed to pronounce upon their several merits has not yet been received.

201. The ratio of school-going Muhammadans to the total Musalman population of the Assigned Districts was one to 67; while of Hindoos it was only 1 to 166. No symptoms of actual hostility to the progress of education were shown by any class of the people during the year; although a faint attempt has to be recorded on the part of a few Brahmans to prevent the admittance of children of the lower orders to our schools. It was explained, however, to the authors of the remonstrance which was made on this point that the benefits of a State system of education must needs be made available to all; and that the right of every cleanly dressed and well behaved boy to take his place in our classes was one which could not be permitted to be called in question. After the above distinct intimation of the views of Government on this point, no further difficulty seems to have been raised in connection with it.

Fees and Fines.

202. The aggregate receipts from fees and fines realized in schools supported by the general revenues, which are, of course, credited to the provincial treasury, amounted to rupees 14,126 (£ 1,412) in 1869, against rupees

16,374 (£1,637) in the previous year. The average fee for each pupil per mensem, in the high, middle, and lower class schools respectively, was As. 5, p. 11 (9*d.*); As. 1, p. 9 (2½*d.*); and As. 1, p. 4 (2*d.*): the mean average per pupil being As. 3 (4½*d.*)

Technical Education.

203. Berar has no institution for the imparting of technical education. An attempt was made during the year to supply in a very small degree this want, by instituting a certain number of scholarships in the Hyderabad Medical school, to be held by natives of Berar, who might be willing to qualify themselves for service in the subordinate medical department of the province; but no candidates came forward; which, perhaps, was not to be wondered at, considering the distance of Berar from Hyderabad.

High Class Schools.

204. There are two institutions of the "high school" class in the Assigned Districts, one of which is at Oomrawuttee, and the other at Akolah. Both these schools are still only in their earlier stages; but they may be said to have at least held their ground and attained a fair amount of results during the year. On the 31st of March, there were 110 pupils on the rolls of the Akolah, and 107 on those of the Oomrawuttee school, against 92 in the former, and 105 in the latter, in the previous year. The average daily attendance was 89 and 76 respectively. The annual receipts from fees amounted at Akolah to rupees 444 (£44); and at Oomrawuttee to rupees 382 (£38.) The cost of both schools is shown at rupees 18,086 (£1,808,) or rupees 7-6-3 (14*s.* 9*d.*) for every pupil per mensem. The standard up to which the masters work is to fit their pupils for the matriculation examination at the University of Bombay. A Hindoostanee-English class was introduced in each school during the year for the benefit of the Muhammadans, which Dr. Sinclair considers to have fairly opened the way to higher class education for this section of the inhabitants.

Middle Class Schools.

205. The middle class schools, in all of which English is taught, were as follows :—

Year.	Number of schools.	Number of scholars.
1868	44 ...	3,444
1869	44 ...	3,747

Of these schools, 41 are considered Marhattee ones, and 3 Hindoostanee. The number of pupils, and the average daily attendance,

showed an improvement on the previous year of 8 *per cent.*, and 6 *per cent.* respectively. Dr. Sinclair has been able to report as follows regarding them:—

"The answering at the competitive examination" (for scholarships in the local high schools) "showed a general steady improvement in the studies, which has been confirmed by the reports of the Inspecting officers, and by my own inspections of many of the schools. The practice of the masters' holding weekly, or in some cases fortnightly, paper examinations of their most advanced pupils has proved very beneficial."

"At the competitive examination which was held at Oomrawuttee, at the end of October 1869, three hundred and thirteen candidates presented themselves, against two hundred and fourteen at the examination of the preceding year. And Muhammadan boys attended it this year for the first time. This appearance of Muhammadan candidates at the yearly competitive examination, I regard as the real beginning of the education of the Muhammadans of Berar. Of the 313 candidates, 42 were Muhammadans."

Scholarships.

206. The founding of the scholarships alluded to by Dr. Sinclair in the above paragraphs formed a new and very satisfactory feature of the year. There were ten scholarships altogether; the value of each being rupees 10 (£1,) tenable in the high schools, and designed for the encouragement of proficiency in Marhattee and Hindoostanee. Six were allotted to the former, and four to the latter vernacular, a proportion perhaps unduly favorable to the students in Hindoostanee.

Lower Class Schools for boys.

207. The following statement shows the year's results under this head:—

Year.	Number of schools.	Number of scholars.
1868	266 ...	7,955
1869	267 ...	10,148

208. An increase of 27·5 *per cent.* in the number of pupils has thus occurred. Five of these schools are classed as Hindoostanee, and 34 as Marhattee ones. They are reported as "at various stages of advancement:" some of the older ones having almost attained to the standard of the middle class, while those established a year ago have still, as is not to be wondered at, much ground to make up.

Lower Class Schools for girls.

209. The progress of these schools is indicated so far by the facts that their number at the end of 1869 was 25, against 23 in the previous year; and the

number of pupils 694, against 611; not reckoning 68 girls who attended the lower class schools for boys. The total number of girls receiving public instruction was thus 762. The average daily attendance was 482: and the total cost for each pupil was rupees 1-1-4 (2*s.* 2*d.*) per mensem. Active means have been used during the year to bring the mind of the inhabitants fairly in contact with the subject of female education; and several public meetings were held with the object of exciting an interest in it. On the whole, the accounts received of the different female schools are encouraging.

Normal School.

210. The opening at Akolah of the first training school for masters ever established in Berar, though mentioned last, is by no means the least important of the events of 1869 in an educational aspect. The institution alluded to is said to have progressed well. It comprises two sides, a Marhattee and Hindoostanee. Each branch has twenty stipendiary scholarships, ten worth eight rupees, and ten worth six rupees a month. The rest of the pupils are free students. Candidates for admission must be natives of Berar, or at least have resided in the province for two years. One object of this provision is that, by raising up a supply of trained schoolmasters among the people of Berar themselves, the necessity now felt of drawing masters from other parts of India may be lessened, and the cost of the department diminished in the same proportion.

Indigenous Schools.

211. The condition of the indigenous schools of the province is thus described by Dr. Sinclair in his Report for the year:—

"The returns furnished by the Deputy Educational Inspectors of the indigenous schools at the end of 1869-70, as compared with those furnished at the corresponding part of the previous year, show a decrease of 19 schools and 315 pupils. But these returns can only be regarded as approximately correct, inasmuch as many of the indigenous masters do not wish to give any information whatever respecting their schools. The decrease in the schools is in a measure due to several of the indigenous masters having gone to the Normal school. However, many of the indigenous schools are of a very precarious character. Some are closed, if their masters obtain a different employment offering a better remuneration for their services; but on the cessation of such employment, the men generally revert to their former occupation. Some are closed during the marriage season. And the masters of others migrate elsewhere when the pupils of the villages in which they have been teaching have acquired the very small amount of learning their parents desire." * * * * * *

* * * * * *

"The amount of fees stated to have been collected during the year in these schools is Rupees 6,181-4-9; but many of the masters are supported, wholly or partly, by presents of grain, &c., from the people. The inspecting officers have been directed to give

every encouragement to these schools, by advice, and by gifts of the most elementary books, and especially by distributing amongst the masters and pupils copies of the Berar Modi first book which is well adapted to the requirements of the masses. And inducements are held out to their masters to go to the normal school, that they may improve themselves, not only in knowledge, but in the manner of keeping their schools, and particularly of instructing their pupils in classes, instead of teaching them one by one. But the improvement of these schools will require time, and continuous attention, combined with much kindness, from the educational officers."

212. The above remarks by Dr. Sinclair, though only partially satisfactory, serve at least to show that the Director has fully before him the principles which were adverted to in last year's Administration Report on the subject of indigenous schools; and that he is anxious to do all that can be done towards converting them into useful adjuncts of his department.

CHAPTER V.

FINANCE.

SECTION I.—GENERAL RESULTS.

The financial results of the year are thus recorded by the Deputy Accountant General.

Income and Charge.

213. The entire income of the administration, inclusive of local funds, amounted to ... ... Rs. 86,29,000 (£862,900);
and the charges to ... „ 81,21,000 (£812,100).

Deducting local funds, the revenues and receipts were ... ... „ 70,13,000 (£701,300);
the charges... ... „ 66,44,000 (£664,400);
leaving a surplus on the transaction of the year of ... ... „ 3,69,000 (£ 36,900),

so far as can be ascertained in the absence of the final account of the Comptroller General.

Compared with the previous year, the aggregate income of 1869-70 is better by ... Rs. 5,80,000 (£ 58,000);
the increase in Berar revenues proper having been ... ... „ 5,61,000 (£ 56,100);
and in Local Funds ... „ 19,000 (£ 1,900).

The actuals of the Berar revenues exceeded the estimate by ... ... Rs. 8,40,000 (£ 84,000);
And the charges of the year exceeded the sanctioned allotment by ... ... „ 4,40,000 (£ 44,000).

But this excess of charges over Budget provision is purely nominal; for it includes

a sum of Rs. 3,87,000 (£38,700), expended on the Khamgaon State Railway, for which no allotment was made;

a sum of Rs. 22,000 (£ 2,200), paid to Mel-Ghat Rajahs which could not be estimated previously;

and adjustments

of Rs. 91,800 (£ 9,180), on account of official postage for three years claimed by the Government of India;

of Rs. 59,700 (£ 5,970), furlough allowances for nearly three years paid by the Secretary of State;

of Rs. 72,600 (£ 7,260), for Military and other pensions for nearly three years, also paid by the Secretary of State;

and

of Rs. 69,000 (£ 6,900), the value of stamps and incidental departmental charges connected with the supply of stamps during the last eight years to the Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

Eliminating these special items, the ordinary service charges of the year fell short of the grants by more than 2½ lakhs (£25,000.)

Heads of Increase.

214. The income of the province has increased mainly under the following heads:—

	Increase on the previous year's realizations.		Increase over estimate of 1869-70.	
	Rs.	£	Rs.	£
Abkaree ...	1,93,000	(19,300)	2,52,000	(25,200)
Land Revenue ...	78,800	(7,880)	1,81,300	(18,130)
Customs ...	51,200	(5,120)	86,800	(8,680)
Forest ...	60,900	(6,090)	80,400	(8,040)
Stamps ...	300	(30)	63,600	(6,360)
Law and Justice...	61,300	(6,130)	59,500	(5,950)
Miscellaneous ...	59,200	(5,920)	51,600	(5,160)
Military Receipts..	34,400	(3,440)	34,300	(3,430)

In the Civil Department, the aggregate expenditure has been rupees 4,61,700 (£ 46,170) greater than in the previous year, and rupees 1,85,400 (£ 18,540) higher than the estimate. Excluding, however, the special items above-mentioned, the ordinary charges of the year, compared with those of the previous year, show:—

an increase of ... Rs. 2,31,400 (£23,140);

but a decrease of ... „ 44,800 (£ 4,480), compared with the estimate.

The Military charges of the year exceed the charges of the previous year by ... Rs. 1,80,200 (£18,020);

and the estimate by ... „ 78,300 (£ 7,830).

This excess is due to the item of furlough allowances and military pensions for nearly three years, paid in England by the Secretary of State, amounting to... ... ... Rs. 84,800 (£ 8,480).

Subtracting the amount, the excess over the charges of the previous year is reduced to Rs. 95,000 (£ 9,500);

while the comparison with the estimate shows a saving of ... Rs. 6,500 (£ 650).

The Public Works Department was unable to spend more than rupees 5,39,000 (£53,900) out of its allotment for ordinary works of rupees 7,50,000 (£75,000.)

The major heads of revenue and charge are given in the appended schedule.

Public Works Charges.

220. The Public Works operations of the year are remarkable from the construction of the Khamgaon State Railway; on which a sum of nearly four lakhs (£400,000) was expended, more than one-half being for permanent way, materials, and other English iron-work.

The growth of charges for Public Works in the Berars is shown below:—

Years.	Amount.	
	Rs.	£
1861-62	1,02,035	(10,203)
1862-63	1,50,200	(15,020)
1863-64	3,38,408	(33,841)
1864-65	4,90,980	(49,098)
1865-66	5,01,250	(50,125)
1866-67 (11 months)	5,05,615	(50,561)
1867-68	6,11,620	(61,162)
1868-69	4,82,434	(48,243)
1869-70	9,26,258	(92,626)

Local Funds.

221. A general improvement in the provincial totals of the various classes of local funds has also occurred this year, although not to the extent noticed in the previous report:—

The receipts were	Rupees 19,240	(£ 1,924)	Better than last year.
The charges	„ 22,301	(£ 2,230)	
And the closing balance ...	„ 1,28,311	(£12,831)	

Roundly, the transactions for each class of funds may thus be given:—

Class of Funds.	Opening balance.	Receipts during the year.	Charges during the year.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Police Funds	62,654	54,269	46,035	70,888
Public Works Funds	1,42,018	5,90,178	5,34,548	1,97,648
Village Expense Fund	3,99,022	7,74,353	7,50,622	4,22,753
Bazar Funds of the Hyderabad Contingent	12,622	90,336	87,281	15,677
Miscellaneous Funds	35,763	43,919	17,172	62,510
Educational Cess	75,495	63,444	50,949	87,990
Total...	7,27,574	16,16,499	14,86,607	8,57,466
£...	72,757	161,649	148,660	85,746

The principles according to which local funds accounts are to be dealt with, as well as the details of the system of audit and record have been fully settled, and a clear code of instructions issued for the guidance of officers concerned. The difficulties which hitherto beset all attempts at fixing the proper position of separate district funds have been surmounted, and the foundations laid for a plan of accounts as accurate and comprehensive as the established provincial accounts.

The condition of each fund is now exactly known; the record for the past three years has been completely constructed; and precisely the same checks which guard the outlay of public money from the provincial treasury have been imposed on the disbursements of money raised by local district assessments.

Deposits.

222. The deposit account is condensed below, but the transactions are far less extensive than they seem, owing to the amounts of drafts obtained for remittance to Contingent stations having been intermediately posted here pending realization of value. The system of making our remittances by means of native money-orders being now superseded, the future record under this head will be cleared of nominal entries:—

Deposits	Amount. Rs.	£
Opening balance	3,06,621	(30,662)
Receipts	9,57,553	(95,755)
Total	12,64,174	(126,417)
Payments	9,88,392	(98,839)
Closing balance	2,75,782	(27,578)

Cash balance.

223. The cash balance in the Hyderabad Treasuries at the close of the year stood at rupees 71,59,000 (£715,900); the constituents being approximately:—

	Rupees.	£
Local Funds, Deposit, and Debt Accounts	19,72,000	(197,200)
Balance due to Government of India	25,20,000	(252,000)
Berar Revenue balance proper	26,67,000	(266,700)

The explanation of this exceptionally high aggregate is to be found in the fact that purchasers of supply bills on the Berar Treasuries, who had in some cases lodged value at Hyderabad, were reduced by the unusual lateness of the cotton season to delay the presentation of their claims; and in the circumstance of an impending payment of 9 lakhs to the Nizam's government, which necessitated a correspondingly heavy balance being previously formed at Hyderabad. The actual amount held in the Berar Treasuries was 59½ lakhs, inclusive of nearly 3 lakhs worth of copper and small-coin, but supply bills were outstanding to the extent of 20 lakhs, the realization of which would at once have brought the aggregate balance down to the level of the previous year.

224. The question of the opening cash-balance required to carry on the public service throughout the Assigned Districts has been considered in a comprehensive way, and the conclusion established that the amount need not exceed 20 lakhs. It will, therefore, be practicable to effect the re-payment of the military advances made by the Government of India much more rapidly than has yet been done, and the balance remaining due at the close of the year should in future be very greatly reduced.

Supply Operations.

225. Connected with this is the important matter of the supply operations. The exceptional position of the Assigned Districts arising from the great bulk of income being obtainable only during the three last months of the year, while the expenditure flows at an even rate throughout the year, is well-known, as is also the fact that the Hyderabad Contingent, for the maintenance of which the Berars have been assigned, has to be paid from money advanced by the Government of India, and subsequently recovered at the close of the collecting season. Heretofore such advances were obtained by the sale at Hyderabad of bills on Calcutta, and the recoveries effected by sale at Bombay of bills on the Berar Treasuries; but as it seemed likely that a better comparative out-turn would be secured for bills sold at Hyderabad directly on the Berar Treasuries, permission was obtained for the experiment, and the result has proved satisfactory.

Money Order Department.

226. This has been the third year of the existence of the Money Order Department in the Assigned Districts, and the operations have expanded considerably.

The work done is presented in the following table:—

Year.	Orders Issued.		Orders Paid.		Proceeds.		
	No	Value.	No.	Value.	Commission.	Lapsed orders.	Total.
		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1867-68	2,446	1,85,793	449	7,077	2,009	.....	2,009
		£ 88,579		£ 2,707	£ 201	.....	£ 201
1868-69	3,228	1,97,700	891	52,901	2,192	230	2,422
		£ 19,770		£ 5,290	£ 219	£ 23	£ 242
1869-70	4,819	2,81,137	1,432	92,458	3,137	153	3,290
		£ 28,113		£ 9,246	£ 314	£ 15	£ 329
Increase over 1868-69. ...	1,591	83,437	541	39,557	945	.....	868
		£ 8,344		£ 3,956	£ 94	.....	£ 87

It will be seen that the total number of orders issued and paid has increased by more than 50 *per cent.*; the total value of orders by nearly 50 *per cent.*; and the proceeds by 36 *per cent.*

Out of the total number of orders issued, 630 were on agencies within the Berar circle, aggregating a value of rupees 35,659 (£3,566.) Of the total number of orders paid, 657 were drawn by agencies within the Berar circle, and their value reached rupees 36,721 (£3,672.) The provinces to which the other orders relate are specified below, and it is remarkable that by far the largest share has this year fallen to Bengal:—

Province.	Number of orders issued			Number of orders paid.		
	1867-68	1868-69.	1869-70.	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.
Bengal	333	711	1,707	33	144	370
Madras	453	532	836	83	170	299
Bombay	1,259	1,327	1,539	14	69	94
Mysore	86	65	107	5	17	12

The average value of each order has been;

Year.	Orders issued.			Orders paid.			
	Rupees.	£.	s.		Rupees.	£.	s.
1867-68	76	= 7	12	.....	60	= 6	0
1868-69	61	= 6	2	.....	59	= 5	18
1869-70	58	= 5	16	.....	64	= 6	8

The commission of the Money Order Agents, consisting of one-eighth of a rupee *per cent.* on the monthly aggregate value of all orders received and paid at each agency, has in one case hardly exceeded a rupee a month; in two cases fallen short of four rupees a month; in two other cases hardly exceeded five rupees a month; and in only one case, *viz.*, at Hyderabad, reached 14 rupees a month. One agent resigned his appointment in consequence of the low rate of remune-

ration, and, no other suitable person being available, the work has since been performed by the treasury officer.

The income, charges, and profits of the department for the three years have been;

Year.	Total commission, &c.		Total charges.		Profits.	
	Rs.	£	Rs.	£	Rs.	£
1867-68...	2,009	(201)	1,697	(170)	312	(31)
1868-69...	2,422	(242)	1,975	(197)	447	(45)
1869-70...	3,290	(329)	2,749	(274)	541	(54)

Paper Currency.

227. The paper currency department has progressed, the balance of notes in active circulation being nearly double of what it was last year. The district officers have been instructed to cause it to be published throughout the country that notes are receivable to any amount in payment of State-demands; and, to encourage their circulation as far as possible, pattern notes of each denomination have been furnished to sub-treasuries, and a stock of notes for sale supplied to all the principal offices. The stock for Oomrawuttee at present remains at one lakh (£10,000) worth; but the Deputy Commissioner has been invited to double it; that for Ellichpur is 60,000 rupees (£6,000) worth; and the Deputy Commissioners have also been required to keep up their stock by freely cashing, on demand, currency notes up to the aggregate value of the supplies received from Akolah.

Income Tax, &c.

228. The income tax realized rupees 19,900 (£1,990,) against rupees 9,000 (£900) from the certificate tax of the previous year, the rate of assessment being more than double. This tax, it should be mentioned, is not leviable from the people of Berar, who are His Highness the Nizam's, and not British subjects; and is restricted in its incidence to the official classes throughout the province. The sale of postage stamps and postage collections continued the same as in the previous year; but the telegraph receipts have improved considerably as shown below. The produce under these heads is credited to the Government of India:—

		1868-69.		1869-70.	
		Rupees.	£.	Rupees.	£.
Post Office ...	Sale of Stamps	29,031	(2,903)	29,630	(2,963)
	Collections	24,187	(2,419)	24,942	(2,494)
	Total...	53,218	(5,322)	54,572	(5,457)
Establishment charges and contingencies ...		59,553	(5,955)	63,711	(6,371)
Telegraph department ...	Receipts	4,781	(478)	13,744	(1,374)
	Charges	11,849	(1,185)	12,500	(1,250)

Inspection of Treasuries.

229. The treasuries at Oomrawuttee and Akolah were inspected in April by the Officiating Deputy Accountant General, who has been enabled to report that the working generally of the Berar treasuries has greatly improved during the year. Accounts are not only punctually rendered, but are better constructed than before, and the officers have acquired a good knowledge of the requirements of the department. Recommendations for revision of the treasury establishments are now under consideration.

SECTION II.—ABSTRACT

The following is an abstract Statement of Receipts and Disburse-

REVENUE AND RECEIPTS.

		Amount of Receipts.
	CIVIL DEPARTMENT.	Rupees.
I.	Land Revenue	45,81,356
III.	Forest	1,45,476
IV.	Abkaree	10,90,229
VI.	Customs	3,66,892
VII.	Salt	6,500
IX.	Stamps	4,59,692
XIII.	Law and Justice	1,34,520
XIV.	Police	62,905
XVI.	Education	14,874
XVII.	Interest	1,883
XVIII.	Miscellaneous	76,601
	Total.....	69,40,928
	MILITARY DEPARTMENT.	
3	Regimental Pay, Allowances, and Charges	243
4	Commissariat Establishment, &c.	.....
5	Stud and Remount Establishments, &c	1,810
6	Clothing Establishment, Supplies, and Services.....	11
7	Barrack Establishment, Supplies, and Services....	.....
9	Medical Establishments, Supplies, and Services	23
10	Ordnance Establishment, Stores and Camp Equipage	2,886
14	Miscellaneous Services	34,529
18	Military Pensions	30,936
	Total	70,438
	PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.	
	Public Works Revenue.....	1,477
	Total.....	1,477
	STATE RAILWAY.	
	Miscellaneous Receipts Imperial	66
	Total.....	66
	Grand Total, Revenue and Receipts.....	70,12,909
		£ 701,291

STATEMENT.

ments of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for the year 1869-70 :—

	EXPENDITURE.	Amount of Expenditure.
	CIVIL DEPARTMENT.	Rupees.
4	Allowances, Refunds, and Drawbacks	16,732
5	Land Revenue	7,49,371
6	Forest	80,711
9	Customs	1,28,208
12	Stamps	1,08,476
17	Administration and Public Departments	2,28,527
18	Law and Justice	1,45,914
19	Police	4,91,074
21	Education, Science, and Art	2,78,755
22	Ecclesiastical	11,435
23	Medical Services	61,347
24	Stationery and Printing	25,382
26	Allowances and Assignments under Treaties and Engagements	1,67,714
27	Miscellaneous Services	2,18,704
28	Superannuation, &c.	5,396
	Total	27,17,746
	MILITARY DEPARTMENT.	
1	Army and Garrison Staff	43,395
2	Administrative Staff	1,392
3	Regimental Pay, Allowances, and Charges	21,28,050
4	Commissariat Establishment, Supplies, and Services	3,11,142
5	Stud and Remount Establishments, &c.	13,100
6	Clothing Establishments, &c.	12,105
7	Barrack Establishments, &c	496
8	Administration of Martial Law	3,812
9	Medical Establishments, &c	29,416
10	Ordnance Establishments, Stores, and Camp Equipage	1,38,353
14	Miscellaneous Services	59,882
16	Rewards for Military Services	11,894
18	Military Pensions	2,36,526
19	Widows' Pensions and Compassionate Allowances	10,584
20	Superannuation Pensions, &c.	40
	Total	30,00,187
	PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.	
	Original Works	3,82,929
	Repairs	37,778
	Establishment	1,02,222
	Tools and Plant	15,841
	Loss of Cash, and Loss and Depreciation of Stores	28
	Revenue Refunds	6
	Total	5,38,804
	STATE RAILWAY.	
	Preliminary Expenses	369
	Construction of Line	96,520
	Stations and Buildings	10,286
	Establishments	18,438
	Tools and Plants	2,460
	Ballast and Permanent Way	2,57,810
	Rolling Stock	246
	Contingencies	1,194
	Electric Telegraph	131
	Total	3,87,454
	Grand Total, Expenditure	66,44,191
		£ 664,419

CHAPTER VI.

COTTON.

230. The results of the year in regard to the cultivation of cotton, and development of the cotton trade, in connection with the Assigned Districts, have been described as follows in a memorandum obligingly prepared by Mr. Rivett Carnac for insertion in this place.

231. In last year's Administration Report it was recorded that the cotton crop of the season 1868-69 in Berar was an excellent one, "equal both in quantity and quality to the produce of any previous year." The province had borne it's part well in supplying England with cotton; contributing, in the year 1868-69, 233,000 bales out of a total of 1,334,000 bales of cotton sent by India to the United Kingdom in a year, when as shown below the imports of Indian cotton exceeded the quantity of American cotton by 200,000 bales.

Exports of Cotton during 1868-69.

Statement showing the imports of Cotton to England in 1869.

	American.		Brazilian.		East Indian.		Egyptian.		Miscellaneous.		Total.	
	Bales.	Cwt.	Bales.	Cwt.	Bales.	Cwt.	Bales.	Cwt.	Bales.	Cwt.	Bales.	Cwt.
Cotton in stock on 31st December 1869.	81,779	322,587	48,768	74,182	370,530	1,069,612	28,675	113,695	6,364	65,461	536,116	1,645,537
Total imports during 1869.	1,035,811	4,027,028	499,779	739,842	1,496,674	4,757,611	184,091	861,001	166,766	452,914	3,383,121	10,838,399
Total exports during 1869.	138,719	589,606	69,722	103,482	560,107	1,764,483	8,986	42,072	18,176	50,659	795,710	2,500,302

The season 1869-70.

232. The season which has just closed shows, from many causes, a much less favorable result than the above. Prospects early in the year were most promising. In the first place, the area under cotton cultivation was much larger than that of the previous year, as the following figures will show:—

Area under Cotton cultivation in Berar.

Division	Districts.	Acres, 1868-69.	Acres, 1869-70.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
East Berar...	Oomrawuttee	182,183	325,692	143,509	.....	
	Ellichpur ...	309,172	187,942	.....	121,230	
	Woon ...	131,161	134,543	3,382	.....	
	Total ...	622,516	648,177	146,891	121,230	
West Berar..	Akolah ...	406,862	411,690	4,828	.....	
	Buldanah ...	195,123	291,762	96,639	.....	
	Bassim ...	62,241	64,157	1,916	.....	
	Total ...	664,226	767,609	103,383	.....	
	Total Berar..	1,286,742	1,415,786	250,274	121,230	Net increase acres 129,044.

The above increase of 129,044 acres represents an increase of about 10½ *per cent.* on the figures of the preceding year, and raises the percentage of cotton cultivation to the cultivated area in Berar from 25 *per cent.* to 30 *per cent.*

Diminished out-turn of Cotton for the year.

233. With such a considerable increase in the cultivation, a larger supply than usual of cotton was very naturally looked for. The weather during the earlier months of the year was favorable; there was just enough sun, and rain; and every thing seemed to indicate a bumper crop. In September, however, when the ripening crop requires warm, cheerful days, the heavy rain returned, and caused great damage to the plant which was then in flower. It was long hoped that the increased area under cotton cultivation would more than counterbalance the harm done by the rain. Even comparatively late in the season, it was felt that continued fine weather would revive the plants, and perhaps give a larger crop than had been known in any previous year. But rain, and what was equally destructive to the cotton, damp cloudy weather continued until late in March; and

the crop, already damaged by the rain, suffered most severely from the "*boll worm*," (well known in America,) which had never been regarded with any great anxiety in Central India. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce and the mercantile community both in this country and in Europe were kept informed of the turn matters had taken, and were warned by the periodical reports of the Cotton Commissioner that a smaller out-turn than usual was to be expected. In February, the probable falling off in the exports was estimated at about one-fifth of the supplies of the previous year; and the result has proved this estimate to be sufficiently correct, the exports from Berar during the season under report being 175,988 bales, as compared with 233,000 bales, the figures of the year 1868-69. The details are given below:—

Exports of Cotton from Berar during the season 1869-70, *as compared with the exports of the preceding year.*

	Bales of 400 lbs.		
	1868-69.		1869-70.
By railway	228,700	...	170,290
By road	4,300	...	5,698
Total...	233,000	...	175,988

These results show a falling off in the exports of 56,000 bales, or about 24 *per cent.* of the supplies of the previous season, a decrease which is entirely to be attributed to the unfavorable character of the season.

Development of the system of pressing Cotton.

234. The beneficial effects expected from the full-presses set up during the season of 1868-69 in Berar, and alluded to in last year's Administration Report, have been realized. Indeed the system of full-pressing the cotton in the interior has been developed in the most marked manner, as the following figures will show:—

Cotton exported by Railway from Berar.

Years.	Full-pressed bales.	Half-pressed bales.	Loose bags.	
1865-66...	...	...	...	*The whole crop went down in loose bags (dokrahs.)*
1866-67...	644	41,866	574,338	
1867-68...	31,659	145,733	152,122	
1868-69...	65,957	151,607	30,993	
1869-70...	113,024	52,136	15,450	

The above figures do not include the small traffic by road, which, as previously explained, is entirely confined to cotton carried in loose bags. They show, however, the following results in the system of pressing cotton in the Assigned Districts.

In the year 1865-66, the whole of the cotton went down in loose bags or *dokrahs*. In the season that has just closed, 66 *per cent.* of the cotton exported by railway was full-pressed, *i. e.*, packed ready for export; 30 *per cent.* was half-pressed; and only 4 *per cent.* went down in loose bags. Such a result is satisfactory, inasmuch as it is generally believed that the system of pressing cotton in the interior is an effective check to the adulteration which was at one time so extensively practiced in the trade.

Satisfactory working of the Railway Traffic.

235. These improved arrangements for packing the cotton are also of advantage to the Railway Company, by reducing the quantity of rolling stock required; by diminishing the risk of fire; and by preventing the "blocks" on the line which occurred so constantly when the crop was carried down to Bombay in loose bags. The working of the traffic by the Railway Company during the past season has been perfectly satisfactory. For this we are doubtless to some extent indebted to the improved system of packing. At the same time, however, the efforts of the Railway officials in perfecting the traffic arrangements are deserving of special recognition.

Increase in the Machinery for packing Cotton.

236. The number of full-presses now in the districts worked by steam power is on the increase. During the year, a Bombay firm erected a pair of steam-presses on the latest improved principle at the market of Oomrawuttee. This raises the number of full-presses in Berar to 20, which is sufficient to press the whole cotton crop of the provinces. The half-presses are thus less in request; and the number of these machines, which at the best are but inexpensive temporary make-shifts, has fallen from 125 to 74.

Measures for improvement of cultivation.

237. The measures noticed in last year's Administration Report for improving the indigenous produce by careful cultivation, and by the selection of seed, have been persevered with during the past year. The Staff of the Cotton department has been augmented by the appointment of seed gardeners sent out from England by order

of His Excellency the Viceroy and the Secretary of State. These gardeners have been placed under the orders of the Assistants to the Cotton Commissioner, at the model farms of Sheagaon and Oomrawuttee. At these farms, indigenous seed, selected during the former season on the plan advocated by Major Trevor Clarke, has been most carefully sown and cultivated. Various experiments have been tried with more or less success, with manures, deep ploughing, &c. Notwithstanding an unusually bad season, the result has been satisfactory; the staple has been pronounced excellent; the out-turn of cleaned cotton to the acre from the selected seed has been large; and in one case the combined effect of good seed and deep ploughing resulted in an out-turn of 255 lbs. of cleaned cotton to the acre. That case was, it is true, an exceptional one, as the soil of the field in which the crop was sown was superior to the general run of the cotton-growing tracts. But from ordinary fields in the farm during this, an unfavorable season, as much as 176 lbs. of cleaned cotton was picked from the acre. The results are, therefore, encouraging.

Selection of Seed.

238. The greatest care has been taken in selecting the seed, on the pedigree system, from this season's crop, the inferior bolls being kept separate, and the *kapas*, or cotton in the seed, being divided into four classes. Much of the best selected seed has been distributed among the most intelligent landholders of the neighbourhood, and the remainder has been reserved for sowing in the model farms.

Experiments with Manures.

239. Whilst the most strenuous efforts are being made to improve the quality of the produce—the length and strength of the staple of the indigenous cotton—at the same time the hardly less important subject of the increase of quantity—the out-turn to the acre—has received attention. The measures adopted for the improvement of the staple will, it is hoped, have some effect on the out-turn also; and it may not unreasonably be expected that the produce of the healthy seed, thus carefully selected, may show a marked improvement in quantity as well as in quality. Numerous experiments have been undertaken at the farms to ascertain the means by which the increase of the out-turn may be most successfully and economically ensured. The respective merits of the various manures are being carefully tested; the "Fertilizer" sent by the Cotton Supply Association; the Australian guano, of which a consignment was received from the Government of India; and the Jail *Poudrette*, of which great hopes as an effective and economical manure are entertained, have

all been put down at the seed-gardens. The imported manures were unfortunately received too late in the season to admit of the experiments being made as thoroughly as could have been desired; and the same difficulty prevented the combined effect of irrigation and manure on the cotton plant receiving a perfectly satisfactory trial.

Deep ploughing.

240. So far as can at present be judged, it would appear that deep ploughing is of great benefit to the plant; and those parts of the seed farms which have been thus treated show very favorably by the side of the fields cultivated according to the ordinary native method. The plants on the well-ploughed fields were found to be much stronger and healthier than their neighbours, and, as already noticed, 180 lbs. of clean cotton per acre was picked from these fields. This season, an ordinary native field hardly yielded 50 lbs. to the acre.

Agricultural schools.

241. The seed farms are also used as *Alfresco* agricultural schools. The sons of some of the principal cultivators are employed on the farm; and the various experiments are explained to them, and to the villagers who occasionally visit the farm to learn the results of our operations, and who express considerable astonishment at the excellent crops, not only of cotton, but of tobacco, Carolina paddy, and other produce raised at the seed-gardens.

Increase in area of Model Farms.

242. The model farm near Sheagaon has this season been considerably extended, and now includes 230 acres, while 280 acres have been taken up at Oomrawuttee. At these farms further experiments with irrigation, &c., will be carefully conducted under the professional supervision of the seed gardeners, or superintendents of experiments, and decisive results are expected. The special Irrigation Engineer recently appointed to Berar will, it is hoped, be able to assist materially the cause of improved cotton cultivation, and to frame projects for cheap and effective means of irrigation.

243. The great importance of enlisting the interests and sympathies of the district authorities in the experiments and measures connected with the cotton cultivation and trade has been fully recognized. The time of the Deputy Commissioners is so much occupied that these officers would not be able to undertake, in addition to their present duties, the experiments now conducted by the Cotton department. But it is believed that if the Assistants and Superintendents now attached to this department were placed under the orders of the De-

Officers of the Cotton department amalgamated with the District Staff.

puty Commissioners, the latter officers, with the additional staff thus placed at their command, would be able most effectively and successfully to carry out the operations now entrusted in their districts to an independent department. It is, therefore, proposed to incorporate the officers of the cotton department with the district staff, and to constitute the Cotton Commissioner a general adviser and referee on all matters connected with the cultivation of, and trade in, cotton. Much advantage is expected to result from the co-operation of the officers who, above all others, have the greatest influence and power to forward the interests of the cotton trade in their districts.

Opening of Khamgaon Railway.

244. The opening of the branch railway to Khamgaon has been referred to in another chapter. Still, as the line was constructed for the benefit chiefly of the cotton interests, a brief notice of it is called for in this place. Great efforts were made to construct the line in time to carry the cotton traffic of the season that has just closed, and, notwithstanding many difficulties, the line was opened by His Excellency the Viceroy on the 4th of March 1870. From that date up to the close of the season, the line, in addition to other traffic, carried 40,000 bales of cotton, or nearly one-fourth of the cotton crop of Berar; and the work has been of the greatest benefit and convenience to the trade.

Branch to Oomrawuttee and the Coal fields.

245 The branch to Oomrawuttee has been commenced, and a line through the Woon District to the coal fields of the Wurdah has suggested itself. When these lines are completed, the requirements of the cotton trade will have been most fully met.

New line of Telegraph.

246. During the season, the extra telegraphic wire designed for the use of the cotton merchants in Berar and Central India was completed, and is now in thorough working order. This work also has been much appreciated by all connected with the trade of the province.

Prospects of the coming season.

247. It is too early at present to form any reliable opinion regarding the prospects of the coming season. Rain fell early in June throughout Berar. Up to the present moment, the fall has been exceedingly heavy, indeed some apprehension is entertained that, unless fine weather soon return, the crop may be affected by what may prove to be excessive rain.

CHAPTER VII.

FORESTS.

248. The principal administrative change which has to be recorded in connection with this heading is that the forests of Berar enjoyed for the first time during the year under review the advantage of being under a special Conservator of their own. Up till March 1869, they had shared with those of the Central Provinces the care of one administering officer. The classification of Reserved and Unreserved forests is still maintained; and, as in former years, the Reserved forests have been administered directly by the department itself, while the Unreserved forest wastes have been managed by the ordinary district authorities, under the general superintendence of the Forest officers. In the State-forests, a more or less rigid system of conservancy is carried out. Restoration and development are there regarded as of primary importance; and the privileges allowed to the inhabitants of villages lying within their limits are confined to the felling of timber, with the exception, however, of teak and sheeshum, for their own wants, free of cost; grazing their cattle under certain necessary restrictions; and collecting teak leaves and grass for *bonâ fide* domestic purposes. In the Unreserved forests, on the other hand, no control is exercised over the cutting of wood by the people; and no departmental attempts at reproduction are instituted. Numerous amendments and additions doubtless still remain to be made in the whole method of Berar forest administration, before it can be said to be fully organized. And the Deputy Conservator is only waiting to submit a set of rules designed with the above object until the areas which it is proposed to take up as State-forests in each district be finally demarcated.

Division of Department into two Executive charges.

249. As a first step towards the introduction of an increased measure of system, the Forest-department was divided, early in the year, into two executive charges; namely, the northern and south-

ern. The former comprises the forests in the Ellichpur, Oomrawuttee, and Akolah districts: the latter those lying in the districts of Buldanah, Bassim, and Woon.

Departmental Establishment and its cost.

250. The *personnel* of the department, as now sanctioned, is as follows:—

1 Deputy Conservator.
1 Assistant Conservator.
1 European Forester.

The aggregate yearly cost of the above establishment, in salaries alone, amounts to rupees 26,066 (£2,606.) It has also to be borne in mind that every Deputy Commissioner is engaged, as far as practicable, in the work of Forest-conservancy.

Reserved or State-Forests.

251. The Ellichpur District is the only one in Berar in which Reserved, or State-forests, have up to this time been created. These are situated in a rugged tract of country known as the Mel-Ghat: the portion of which comprised in the Assigned Districts covers an area of about 1,500 square miles. The aboriginal Ghond and Koorkoo tribes which inhabit it gain their livelihood in a great measure by transporting to the plains timber, and other forest produce; which they dispose of in certain established bazars at the foot of the hills; where the forest department collects the prescribed taxes, according to a scale noted in the margin.* In order that the just interests of these natural foresters might not suffer in consequence of the introduction of forest administration properly so called, an Assistant Commissioner was posted to the civil charge of the Mel-Ghat during the year; and his presence there has already led to good results. The demarcation of the State Reserves in the Mel-Ghat is still only in progress. Should all the sites which have been selected by the Deputy Conservator prove fairly available, then the entire area of State-forests in this tract alone will be about 500 square miles; and will comprise the most densely wooded and valuable forest land in the whole range of the Satpura hills; the principal timber included in its compass being teak, tewus, sheeshum, bamboos, and kowah. The simple and inexpensive form of boun-

	Rs.	A.	P.
* Per cart load	4	0	0
A load of one pair of bullocks ...	1	0	0
Bullock load	0	8	0
Head load	0	2	0
Bamboos, per hundred... ...	0	12	0

dary mark described in last year's Administration Report as then about to be introduced, namely, cairns of loose stone, rising five feet in height, and surmounted by a teak pole, would appear to serve the purpose well. In one of the most promising portions of the State-reserves, an area of about 31 square miles has been set apart to form the subject of a specially careful or rigid system of conservancy; a space 35 feet in width having been cleared all round it as a fire-path. This path is patrolled day and night by watchers; and the experiment, though costly, is said to have proved successful as regards the prevention of fires within the area thus isolated. The felling of wood of all descriptions is prohibited throughout the above block; and every effort is made to assist the growth of self-sown seed. It is found, however, that as many teak seedlings are yearly killed by suffocation as by fire. So rapid is the growth of the grass that it over-tops, and eventually destroys, the tender saplings.

252. In the remaining portion of the Mel-Ghat Reserve, the felling of timber, though conducted exclusively under the orders of the Forest department, is not subject to so strict a system of conservancy as that just described. In connection with this topic, the following remarks by the Officiating Deputy Conservator are worthy of being quoted:—

"It would be impracticable," writes Mr. Strettell, in his annual report, "to exclude fires over so large an expanse of country; and detrimental to the interests of the department to deprive the Koorkoos of the right of cutting bamboos for exportation to the plains, which is their chief means of gaining a livelihood; for, once debarred this privilege, they would desert their villages, and take up their abode in some other parts of the district forests, where this restriction did not exist. Where we are so dependent on these people to work our forests, it would be a false policy for us to introduce any system calculated to oust them: and, of course, it will always be to our advantage, by conciliatory measures, to gain their good-will: and I have little doubt that, although they are at present averse to work for us, they will soon see the advantages daily labour offers, in comparison to their present mode of gaining a livelihood, which, as before stated, consists mainly in conveying timber to the plains, and on which they seldom realize a profit of over five rupees a month."

253. Although it is infinitely more difficult to carry these principles into practice than to state them, yet, it is most satisfactory to find them so clearly understood and adopted by the Deputy Conservator as the above passage shows them to be. It may even be impossible at first to guard effectually against petty attempts at oppression or extortion on the part of the lower subordinates of the

department, but with perseverance this result will certainly be attained. Then, and not till then, will the inhabitants of the forests be found ready to receive the Forest Officers as their friends, if not perhaps altogether to exchange their traditional method of obtaining a livelihood—the very precariousness of which is possibly one of its attractions in their eyes—for that held out to them by Mr. Strettell.

Plantations.

254. The measures adopted during the year for the management and improvement of plantations are thus noticed in the annual departmental report:—

"In my report for last year, I briefly noted that a teak nursery of nearly a quarter of an acre in extent had been established on the right bank of the river Sipna. The seed continued to germinate from 8 days to 4 months, and Mr. Ballantyne, the Forester to whom this work is entrusted, reports that the seed from the Central Provinces vegetated more readily than that collected in the Mel-Ghat. I do not consider that this is the result of the Nagpur seed (under similar conditions) being better than that of our forests; but rather that it was of the previous year's collection, and that the seed gathered by us was from trees in the most exhausted state of growth, resulting from injudicious felling, burning, and circumstances over which we had no control. I am satisfied in my own mind, could we in a solitary instance meet with a tree that has not been mangled, burnt, and lamentably mutilated, the seed of this province would be equal to that of Nagpur."

"Prior to sowing, some of the seed was soaked in water from 48 to 72 hours, while some was not steeped at all; and the Forester reports that there was little difference between the time the soaked and unsoaked seed took to germinate. The quantity of seed sown was 176 lbs., or 123,200 seeds, 700 seeds on an average going to the lb. The total number of plants raised was 15,300; but from this it must not be supposed that the rest are failures, as I have had proof of teak seed lying dormant for a whole year, and germinating the following rains. I refer to some seed that was sown near the Peelee Thanna by the Jamadar in March 1868, and which only germinated in June 1869; this fact however is in no way peculiar to teak seed."

"It will be remembered in my last report, I explained the reason for seed of larger bulk germinating less readily than that of smaller, and the Forester now reports that in respect to teak, it is a mistaken idea to suppose that the larger the seed, the better the quality; and that the results from the smaller and perfectly formed seeds were the most satisfactory. The irrigation of this nursery was continued from 10th of March 1869, till the middle of May of the same year. Adjoining this nursery is the plantation into which the young seedlings have been transplanted, it extends to 16 acres, with a soil similar to that of the nursery. The ground was cleared of all scrub jungle, and pits 12″ × 10″ deep were dug in lines running north and south, at 8 feet apart one way, and 3 feet the other. The total number of pits excavated in March, April, and May 1869 were 27,500. The soil excavated was allowed to remain until the 15th of July, when it was returned to the pits, with a proportion of manure. The transplanting was commenced on the 18th, and completed on the 30th of July. This operation was conducted on dull rainy days."

"The number of plants transplanted was 16,000, 700 having been obtained from the jungle. The remaining pits were sown with seeds. The number of plants alive up to the present date is 17,220. The deaths of transplanted seedlings are estimated at 10 *per cent.* The chief cause of failure was owing to the inexperience of the Forester and myself in the culture of teak; the ground selected was a little too much on the slope, resulting in some of the young plants being washed away by the rush of water; and again the pits in some instances were allowed to remain a few inches below the surface of the ground, thereby affording a lodgment for water which killed many plants."

"As an experiment, I directed last July that 150 teak plants of healthy growth be transplanted from the jungle to the slopes of the hills surrounding the present teak plantation. They were at the time when they were transplanted from 9 to 18 inches high, and are now 1 to 3 feet high. Of these young plants there are at present 116 trees alive, all of which are most healthy and promising. The system adopted was to plant the seedlings on steps cut out of the slopes, the object being to break the rush of water. These slopes I had likewise planted with clumps of bamboo obtained from other parts of the forests; this experiment has proved a perfect success, and there is no doubt that the propagation of bamboo by the division of its root is the most economical, expeditious, and successful method of multiplying this grass."

"Last February, two other nurseries were formed at Peelee, and sowing continued from 2nd to 5th of March. 288 lbs. of seeds were put down, or 288,000 seeds. In this instance about 1,000 seeds were found to go to the lb. A portion of the seed was soaked from 28 to 120 hours; and the rest not steeped at all."

"Germination commenced on the 8th day, but the seeds are not appearing so rapidly as they did last year. This no doubt is the result of sowing having been commenced earlier this season."

"Plantations have been prepared at Rakedeo and Sembadeo on the river Sipna, the following are the systems:—

"'At Rakedeo, where the soil consist of a mixture of clay and sand, about eight acres have been cleared of grass, scrub, and other useless jungle, and then well ploughed and rolled. The seed was sown in furrows two inches deep and eight feet apart, and the ground finally rolled. Sixty lbs. of seed was sown to the acre, on an average a 1,000 seed going to the lb. Adjoining this plot ten acres have been prepared with pits seven feet apart either way. It is intended to plant this plantation with seedlings from the nurseries, and likewise to sow a few seeds in each pit in case of failures. The third system is to transplant seedlings of natural growth from the jungles, and for this purpose land is being prepared in the vicinity of Sembadeo, where there is already a fair sprinkling of young teak. The young plants that were transplanted from the nursery and the jungle last monsoon have not been irrigated this year, as I have had sufficient proofs that an outlay on this account is quite unnecessary after the seedlings have made one season's growth. As I am satisfied as to the advantage to be gained by sowing seeds of the previous year's collection, I have directed that a large quantity of seed be gathered this year, and stored away in alternate layers of leafs, mould, and sand. This system is common in England when dealing with seeds of a hard nature, the object being to partially rot the outer shell and thereby facilitate germination. During my inspection of the forest last monsoon, I was surprised to find how densely the ground was covered with young teak seedlings, and I had resolved to form the more

promising sites into teak plantation using every effort to protect the young plants from fire, being at that time under the impression this was the only danger I would have to guard against. Towards the end of the rains, however, I again visited the forests, and was sorry to find that the whole of the young seedlings had been killed by an overgrowth of grass. As there is no doubt that most valuable young teak preserves may be established where reproduction is so good, by merely keeping down the grass, and excluding fires, I intend this year to try the system which no doubt has many advantages over artificial culture; for not only would the maintenance of such preserves be less expensive, but the results more favourable; for the mere fact of transplanting retards growth in all trees, more especially in the case of teak which has an unusually long tap-root.'"

"From the limited experience the Forester and myself have had in the propagation of teak, we agree that the best soil and situation for the growth of teak is on the slopes of hills, with soil of a clayey nature, retained by a fair growth of bamboos. For nursery beds however, a soil of a loamy nature would appear preferable."

The total expenditure incurred on plantations during the year amounted to rupees 684-10-3 (£ 68 9*s.*); not much when the distinct results, if only in the way of experience and observations, which are recorded in the above paragraphs are taken into account.

Unreserved or District Forests.

255. Turning now to the unreserved or district forests, which constitute, under the existing *regime*, the larger section of the natural wooding of Berar, we find that their comparatively secondary character in a revenue and economic point of view is more than compensated for by their importance meteorologically, that is in their influence on the rain-fall and climate of the province; and by the close connection which there is between their condition and the supply of fuel, and of wood required by the people for domestic purposes. It seems probable that Berar, like many other parts of the world which are now comparatively bare, was at one time covered, at least in many places, with masses of luxuriant forest; while it is also certain that, from whatever cause, the rain-fall is not at the present day so copious as it was a few generations ago. All these considerations point to the necessity of forest conservancy being bestowed as carefully on the humbler trees of the coppice, whose leaves act upon the atmosphere, and of whose wood may be made the simpler implements of agriculture, as upon the giants of the forest, whose trunks yield timber such as perhaps even the ship-builder in remote dockyards can turn to account. As a matter of fact, an increasing scarcity of wood for domestic purposes is now manifesting itself in several parts of the Assigned Districts; so much so that the fields are in some instances robbed of their natural manure, through the droppings of the cattle being collected by the poorer classes as fuel; while it is said to be not

uncommon to see men, women, and children grubbing up the jawaree roots for the same purpose. With these things before us, the vast benefits which will be conferred on the province when coal mines are opened on its surface become all the more apparent. The Cotton steam-factories of Khamgaon and Oomrawuttee, indeed, at present consume far more babool wood as fuel than can be spared; and it is well that the long-buried forests of bygone ages now seem likely to be restored to us in the form of coal, for the supply of requirements the tendency of which is to increase *pari passu* with civilization.*

Inspection by Forest Officers.

256. A large percentage of the whole surface of the province was visited by the Deputy Conservator of Forests or his Assistant in the course of the year, in order to determine what portions of the natural wooding of the country might advantageously be converted into State-reserves; and what measures of conservancy are most suitable as regards the remainder. The results of his tour are embodied to a large extent in the form of direct suggestions in his annual report, and are now under consideration; being far too important, and involving too many different interests, to be disposed of in a cursory or summary manner.

Progress of the Department.

257. On the whole, and taking one district with another, Mr. Strettell has been able to report a fair amount of progress as having been made during the year in extending and caring for the unreserved forests. Coppices or *buns* of the Babool tree, which forms *par excellence* the indigenous wood of Berar, have been marked off in many localities by the Survey department, with a view to the preservation of the more promising Babool trees; and an attempt has also been made to introduce what is technically termed the rotatory coppice system on hills thought suitable for this purpose. In the Akolah district, a large Babool *bun* has been recommended to be made into a State-forest. In the Oomrawuttee District, again, teak cultivation has been carried on with decided success. And altogether a good deal has been done during the year for the development of our unreserved forests. At the same time, it has to be said that a very great deal remains to be effected before the results fairly to be expected in this branch of administration can be considered as attained. All that has been accomplished in the course of the past year amounts, indeed, to little more than laying, or, at most, extending the foundation on which future efforts and further progress are to rest.

* *Vide* pages 115 to 117.

Finance.

258. Adverting lastly to financial results, it appears that there has been an increase in expenditure amounting to rupees 28,289 (£2,829) or 89 *per cent.*: the aggregate receipts of the year having at the same time exceeded those of the previous one by rupees 57,232 (£5,723) or 67·7 *per cent.* In the State Reserve, timber is the only article from the direct sale of which revenue is derived ; and, with the exception of rupees 954 (£95) worth which was sold to builders, no departmental felling was called for during the year. Felling, indeed, has been temporarily suspended; owing to there being little or no demand for the stock already collected in the depôts, because the requirements of the people are met by the exportation of timber from the District Forests. The receipts of the year from the State Reserve amounted, however, to rupees 1,04,733 (£10,473); while the total expenditure was only rupees 9,774 (£977.) The principal items under the head of receipts were permit fees, which yielded rupees 93,844 (£9,384); and grazing dues, which aggregated rupees 7,846 (£784.)

Taking reserved and unreserved forests together, the financial results of the year are summarized in the following table:—

Credit.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Cash receipts of the year	1,41,788	11	3
Timber in hand at the end of the year...	3,679	8	9
Outstanding debts due to the Forest department at the close of the year	24,411	0	10
Total...	1,69,879	4	10
	(£16,988)		

Debit.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Stock in hand at the beginning of the year	1,913	3	11
Outstanding debts due at the beginning of the year ...	24,042	5	6
Expenditure of the year	59,948	7	5
Balance in favor of department ... { Rs. 81,840 3 10 / „ 2,135 0 2 }	83,975	4	0
Total...	1,69,879	4	10
	(£16,988)		

CHAPTER VIII.

POLITICAL.

Under this heading, there is very little to be recorded in connection with the Assigned Districts; which, happily, present the picture of a people too generally absorbed in peaceful occupations to be readily moved by political excitement. Whatever truth there may be in the common theory that rivers act as non-conductors of political electricity, this at least may be accepted as certain that in proportion as communities resembling that of Berar become distributed over the Empire will the necessity for military preparation, at all events as against internal or civil disturbance, grow less.

His Excellency the Viceroy's visit.

259. The most marked feature of the year in a political point of view was the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General to Berar. The Nawwab Sir Salar Jung, K. C. S. I.—who has since been honored by Her Most Gracious Majesty with the decoration of a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, in recognition of a life happily dedicated to the service of His Highness the Nizam's government, and indirectly indeed to that of the Empire at large—was present on the same occasion, by special invitation of the Viceroy. The opening by the Viceroy in person of the Khamgaon State-railway, which formed perhaps the most important feature of His Excellency's brief sojourn in Berar, has already been adverted to in the chapter on Public Works. The prominence assigned to that ceremony in the programme of the Vice-regal proceedings was, doubtless, not thrown away on the mind of the eminent native administrator who witnessed it. And there is every reason to believe that this was but one of many benefits which His Excellency's visit was attended with.

Feudatories.

260. The only Feudatories, if such they can be called, who are recognized within the compass of the Assigned Districts are certain Ghond Rajahs who from

time immemorial have called the mountainous tracts of the Mel-Ghat their own. These, perhaps, are interesting ethnologically rather than politically. Nevertheless, the introduction of Forest Conservancy into their ancestral wilds has called for very careful consideration of their rights. The Administration Report for the year 1867-68 contained a summary of the concessions deemed fairly due to them, and of the principles sanctioned by the Government of India for the adjustment of their claims. When shape has been finally given to the Forest Department, a full report will be submitted to Government regarding the privileges which may definitely be accorded to these Rajahs.

Boundary.

261. The settlement of the boundary line between the Assigned Districts and the territory administered by the native government itself was steadily carried on during the year; and a length of 162 miles traversed with theodolite and chain. Of the above, 41 miles ran through disputed ground. But owing partly to the excellent spirit shown by the functionary of His Highness' government who was associated with an officer of our own Survey Department in the execution of the duty, everything proceeded harmoniously and successfully.

CHAPTER IX.

MILITARY.

The only troops stationed in Berar belong to the Hyderabad Contingent; the main portion of which, as has already been mentioned, is distributed over the territory administered by the native government; a very limited force sufficing for Berar itself.

262. Ellichpur, the old capital of Berar under Muhammadan rule, and still, politically, the most important town in the province, forms now the one military cantonment in the Assigned Districts. The following details garrisoned it during the year:—

Native Artillery:	1 Field Battery (horsed.)
Native Cavalry:	1 Troop.
Native Infantry:	1 Regiment.

Two companies of Native Infantry at Akolah, and one at Oomrawuttee completed the provincial establishment of troops. Reinforcements can be readily drawn from the adjacent stations of the Contingent. But, fortunately, the only occasions, in recent times at least, when this has had to be done have been those of ceremony, when guards of honor on a larger scale than usual were temporarily required. In the event of serious emergency, the large military stations of Poona and Nagpur would doubtless furnish supports on a very few hours' notice.

CHAPTER X.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

Church Establishment.

263. Two Chaplains of the Madras Ecclesiastical Establishment are maintained, one from the revenues of the Assigned Districts, and the other from Imperial revenue, to minister to 11 Christian communities spread over the province itself, and the stations of the Hyderabad Contingent, with the exception of Bolarum; that is, over an area of about 17,700 square miles. One chaplain is located at Aurungabad, and visits from time to time the stations of the Contingent; while Berar itself and the small cantonment of Hingolee form the special charge of the second, whose head-quarters are at Ellichpur.

Progress in building places of worship.

264. The progress which was made during the year in building places of worship for the use of the British and large Eurasian communities connected with the Assigned Districts has already been described under the heading of Public Works. At Akolah, the foundation stone of a church was laid on the 17th of November, by the Reverend Dr. Gell, Lord Bishop of Madras; whose third visitation to the province was accomplished during the cold-weather, and seems, as usual, to have formed a stimulus to the advancement of every good object. At Oomrawuttee, the money had been subscribed, and the necessary preliminaries for the erection of a church completed before the close of the year. At Ellichpur, a church is nearly ready for consecration; while both at Khamgaon and Hingolee it is hoped that places of Christian worship are about to be reared. And thus, through the praiseworthy endeavours of the congregations themselves, aided by the moderate grants from Government which are sanctioned in such cases, the necessities of the province as regards church accommodation are being gradually supplied.

Christian School at Yeotmahal.

265. The English school for the instruction of Christian children which was opened during the year at Yeotmahal has been already mentioned in connection

with the subject of education. It bids fair to supply a much-felt want; as it is plainly impossible for many of the parents to send their sons to a distance to be educated. This, and other undertakings connected with the moral welfare of the Christian inhabitants of the province, have been carried out mainly through the exertions of the Reverend H. P. James, the Chaplain of Berar, to whom, and to all who have co-operated with him, the best thanks of the administration are due.

CHAPTER XI.

POST OFFICE.

266. The Postal Department in the Assigned Districts was transferred during the year under report from the control of the Postmaster General of Bombay to that of the chief Inspector of Post-offices in the Central Provinces. The post-offices of Berar are treated as Imperial, not as Provincial establishments; that is, the receipts and expenditure connected with them are credited and debited to the revenues of British India. In the absence of a report on the subject from the Postmaster General of Bombay, statistics of the kind required to give completeness to the present section are unfortunately not available.

267. For the purpose of connecting the Imperial post-offices with the remoter towns of Berar, a system of district post is maintained by means of runners, at a monthly cost of rupees 630 (£ 63), which is defrayed from the provincial revenue; while an establishment of rural messengers, costing rupees 400 (£ 40) per mensem and paid from local funds, carries letters from the towns to villages lying in the interior.

CHAPTER XII.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

In the absence of a report on the subject from the responsible head of the department, full details in connection with the working of the telegraph in the Assigned Districts are not available. It may be noted, however, that the wants of the province in respect of telegraphic communication are remarkably well supplied. The Railway, and the Government wire, entering Berar on the west at a point near Malkapur, traverse it side by side, until they emerge again at Chandoor on the Nagpur frontier; branches having been extended from the main line in such directions as commercial interests have rendered desirable. Such branches remained during the year as described in last year's Administration Report. Their usefulness fluctuates at different seasons of the year; depending chiefly on the course of the cotton trade. One or more is occasionally even closed for a time. These branches place the cotton marts of Oomrawuttee, Akote, and Khamgaon in telegraphic communication with all parts of India.

268. The Oomrawuttee branch continued throughout the year to prove itself a success financially, and was kept open during the whole twelve months. Its aggregate realizations amounted to rupees 13,267 (£1,327) from 4,085 messages transmitted, and 4,979 messages received. This shows a clear profit to Government of rupees 8,228 (£823,) after deducting the total amount of expenditure, namely rupees 5,039 (£504,) incurred on account of salaries, contingencies, house-rent, &c. At Khamgaon also the telegraph is believed to have more than paid its expenses; while the facilities afforded by it to the trade of so large a cotton mart are, of course, widely appreciated.

269. The wire has not yet been extended to any of the stations of the Hyderabad Contingent, nor indeed to any portions of His Highness the Nizam's territory, with the exception of the Assigned Districts, and the capital itself. The latter is connected by means of the telegraph with Kurnool on the south.

CHAPTER XIII.
MISCELLANEOUS.

SECTION I.—SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT.

At the commencement of the survey year which opened on the 1st November 1868, the actual condition of the Assigned Districts as regards Survey and Settlement operations was in this wise:

In the Akolah District, the several stages of measurement, classification of soil, and settlement had all been completed:

In the Buldanah District, the Mehkar talukah had been measured, and the work of classification, though not that of settlement, begun:

In Bassim, measurement was progressing in one of the two talukahs; while in the other survey operations had yet to be introduced:

In the Oomrawuttee District, measurement had been carried to completion in one talukah (Murtizapur); was advancing in another (Oomrawuttee); and had yet to be begun in the third (Tallagaon). The only talukah in which classification had been commenced was Murtizapur; and in no part of the district had the work of settlement as yet been taken up:

In the Ellichpur District, measurement, classification, and settlement had all been entered upon in one talukah (Dareeapur); measurement only in another (Ellichpur); and none of the three operations in the third (Morsee):

In the Woon District no beginning of survey operations had been made at all.

270. On the whole, an area of 44,40,090 acres had been measured, and of 38,57,238 acres classed, since the survey was first commenced; while the total number of villages settled was, 1,889. The aggregate cost of operations had amounted to rupees 8,42,417 (£84,242); and the direct increase in the revenue which had resulted therefrom was stated at rupees 5,25,835 (£52,583) *per annum.*

Progress during 1869.

271. During the year under review, the operations of the department have been steadily extending themselves throughout the districts of Oomrawuttee and Ellichpur as also in Bassim. The results are thus shown, and compared with those of the previous year.

MEASUREMENT.

Year.	Area measured.		Cost per acre.				Area tested.
	Acres.		RS.	A.	P.		Acres.
1868...	7,39,949	...	0	2	$10\frac{1}{2}$	...	60,410
1869...	10,66,157	...	0	2	8	...	88,222

CLASSIFICATION.

Year.	Acres classified.		Acres tested.		Cost of Classification per acre.		
					RS.	A.	P.
1868...	6,75,949	...	38,729	...	0	1	$0\frac{1}{4}$
1869...	5,88,315	...	37,886	...	0	0	11

Area measured.

272. The increase in the area measured is due to two extra establishments having been made available about the middle of the working season, raising the number of measuring parties from eight in 1868 to ten in 1869: while the falling off exhibited under the head of classification of soils is ascribable to one of the classifying establishments having had to be broken up, on the departure to England of the officer in charge. On the whole, the work of classification remains in arrear of that of measurement by 10,60,694 acres; and means will be used to maintain a more equal ratio of progression as regards the two branches of the survey respectively.

Cost of Survey.

273. The cost per acre of both operations during the year was As. 3 p. 7, against As. 3 p. $10\frac{3}{4}$ in 1868; the fall having been chiefly due to the absence of some of the European officers on leave to England. The chief reason which prevents survey operations in Berar from being carried out as cheaply as they are in the adjoining districts of the Bombay Presidency is that, in the latter, the village servants are found willing to carry the measuring chain as part of their regular duties, and without expecting any special remuneration for the work; whereas in Berar, hired labour has to be employed for this purpose. This point, which had been the subject of correspondence between my predecessor, Sir G. Yule, and the Supreme Government, recently attracted my consider-

ation; but the conclusion arrived at was that, owing to certain features in the status of the village servants in Berar, the Bombay practice in this respect could not in fairness be introduced. The expenditure for this item alone aggregated during the year rupees 25,696 (£2,569.)

Cost and result of Survey during the year.

274. The aggregate cost of the survey during the year was rupees 2,21,934 (£22,193,) while the increase to the revenue from its operations amounted to rupees 64,670 (£6,467.) The cost from its commencement has been rupees 10,64,351 (£106,435,) and the increase in annual income rupees 5,90,505 (£59,050.)

Results of work tested.

275. Much accuracy seems to have characterized the work of the year. For, out of 4,624 fields tested, in 4,367 the errors discovered were under 2 *per cent.;* and in 188 under 3 *per cent.;* while in only five instances were the errors found in excess of 6 *per cent.*

Boundary marks.

276. The arrangements for the erection of boundary marks, which were very unsatisfactory for the two first months of the season, improved after the infliction on the contractor of a few suitable fines; and the work of erecting these marks in most of the villages under survey was eventually completed. In several instances, however, measurers had to remain in the districts for a considerable time after the close of the field operations, to the great retardment of the monsoon work, to see to the completion of the boundary marks.

Boundary disputes.

277. Boundary disputes would appear to have been somewhat numerous: 218 cases of this description having been settled during the year. Only 24 appeals were preferred against the original decisions of the Survey officers; and in only three cases was the order of the Survey officer reversed by the Superintendent on appeal. The large number of these disputes which occurred is ascribed to the intrinsic value of the land, and its close cultivation, in that portion of Berar in which survey operations are now going on.

Results of Survey.

278. Of the 6,365 villages of Berar as at present known, altogether 3,725 have been measured, 2,997 classed, and 2,259 settled. The season under report has not been, on the whole, so successful as the last, but has been one of peculiar trial and difficulties to the Survey Department. It is, however, satisfactory that the annual revenue of the province has

up to the present time been increased, through the operations of the Survey Department alone, by about six lakhs of rupees (£60,000); a result due, not to the introduction of high rates, but to the equitable apportionment of the land tax over the extended area which is ascertained by actual measurement, and classified according to its soil.

Trigonometrical Survey.

279. The Trigonometrical Survey stations situated in His Highness the Nizam's dominions, and the Hyderabad Assigned Districts are placed under the charge of the village officers, who are held responsible for their preservation.

A party of the Great Trigonometrical Survey department, under charge of a Deputy Superintendent, entered His Highness the Nizam's dominions in December 1869 for the purpose of carrying out a series of triangulations. To facilitate the operations of the department, a native official was deputed by the Hyderabad government to wait on the survey party while engaged in the Nizam's country, and render every requisite assistance.

Record of Rights.

280. The settlement of the tenant-right question and the registration of co-sharers has been all but completed throughout the district of Akolah.

SECTION II.—AGRICULTURE.

The following table exhibits, approximately, the cultivated, cultivable, and waste lands contained within the area of the Assigned Districts:—

Districts.		Cultivated	Cultivable.	Waste.	Total.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
East Berar ...	Ellichpur ...	6,30,954	7,50,115	4,14,808	17,95,877
	Oomrawuttee ...	9,57,831	6,25,333	8,63,034	24,46,198
	Woon ...	5,19,554	13,96,602	7,92,324	27,08,480
		21,08,339	27,72,050	20,70,166	69,50,555
West Berar...	Akolah ...	13,80,882	1,52,190	1,93,001	17,26,073
	Buldanah ...	12,53,173	1,91,558	3,08,427	17,53,158
	Bassim ...	5,76,715	2,38,257	3,40,937	11,55,909
		32,10,770	5,82,005	8,42,365	46,35,140
	Total ...	53,19,109	33,54,055	29,12,531	1,15,85,695

Thus, of the average of the whole province, 46 *per cent.* is returned as actually under cultivation; 29 *per cent.* as cultivable; and 25 *per cent.* as waste. Land of the last mentioned description is let as pasturage when adapted for that purpose.

Statistics of Crops.

281. The area under each kind of crop was somewhat as follows:—

	Acres.	Percentage.
Rice;	45,206 ...	·85
Wheat;	4,80,697 ...	9·04
Other food grains;	23,20,470 ...	43·63
Oil seeds;	1,78,806 ...	3·36
Sugar-cane;...	6,963 ...	·13
Cotton;	14,20,142 ...	26·70
Opium;	247 ...	...
Fibres;	9,059 ...	·17
Tobacco;	32,522 ...	·61
Other products;	8,24,997 ...	15·51

The total acreage under cultivation exceeded that of the previous year by 3,13,654 acres, or 6 *per cent.*, as was mentioned in the section on Land Revenue. The aggregate yield, however, fell short of that of the preceding year by 12 *per cent.*

Prices of produce, labour, &c.

282. The subjoined table compares the prices of certain kinds of produce and stock which prevailed in the province at the time of its assignment to British management with those actually current at the present day:

East Berar per maund of 82 lbs.
West Berar do. 80 do.

	1853-54.						1869-70.					
	East Berar.			West Berar.			East Berar.			West Berar.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Cotton, cleaned;	8	0	0	5	10	10	25	0	0	32	15	7
Wheat;	1	4	0	1	1	4	4	0	0	4	9	8
Gram;	1	0	0	0	12	10	5	0	0	5	1	9
Rice;	1	0	0	2	3	6	7	0	0	6	0	10
Jawaree;	0	12	0	0	10	5	2	0	0	1	15	11
Oil seeds;	1	8	0	1	4	6	3	8	0	3	11	9
Tobacco;	2	0	0	6	7	0	14	0	0	19	8	0
Plough bullocks; each	35	0	0	52	8	0	100	0	0	56	12	8
Buffaloes;	40	0	0	24	12	0	80	0	0	53	8	0

283. The price of labour, though it has not risen in the same proportion as some of those shown in the above columns, is nevertheless double what it was ten years ago. It is now quoted as follows:—

	East Berar. Per diem.						West Berar. Per diem.					
	RS.	A.	P.	£	s.	d.	RS.	A.	P.	£	s.	d.
Skilled ...	1	0	0 =	0	2	0	0	13	0 =	0	1	7½
Unskilled ...	0	5	0 =	0	0	7½	0	5	0 =	0	0	7½

The whole of His Highness the Nizam's territory, it should be mentioned, and not merely Berar, has seen a somewhat similar rise in the price of food staples and of labour, during the period alluded to. The development of the railway system has been one of the chief causes of this, by creating, first of all, an unprecedented demand for labourers during the progress of the works themselves; and then, when these were completed, by drawing off to distant markets the produce of the districts tapped by the line.

Condition of Peasantry.

284. The following remarks by the Commissioner of East Berar, on the condition of the peasantry of the Assigned Districts, will be read with interest and satisfaction:—

"During the year, cleaned cotton fetched about 25 rupees the maund of 82 lbs. in Oomrawuttee; therefore the value of the produce of one acre, which I have taken at an average of 50 lbs., would be worth in round numbers about 15 rupees. Deducting from this one-third, or 5 rupees, for the expense attending the cultivation, and another third for the clothing and subsistence of the cultivator and his family, there remain rupees 5, of which the cultivator pays at the utmost but 1¼ rupee to the State, and this gives a fair idea of the profits which our ryots are realizing."

"Cotton alone pays the whole of the land-revenue demand; so that the produce of 69 acres, out of every 100 cultivated, is so much clear gain to the ryots."

"A similar computation shows that at present market rates, after deducting all costs of cultivation, and after an ample allowance for the subsistence of the cultivator, the surplus which remains from some of the other grains we produce, and from which our revenue would be paid, if it had not already been paid by cotton, would be approximately as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Wheat;	2	10	0
Gram;	2	0	0
Jawaree;	2	10	0
Linseed;	2	0	0

"I say nothing of the more valuable crops, such as sugar, opium, tobacco, for the proportion of these to the crops I have mentioned is extremely small. However I have shown, I think, that the Berar ryot is probably better off than any agriculturist in the world, and he will continue so as long as our cotton is in demand."

Experiments with Virginia tobacco seed.

285. A series of experiments was instituted in East Berar during the year with the view of determining whether Virginia tobacco seed can be grown advantageously in the province. The Commissioner reports most favourably of the result; and purposed forwarding samples of the leaves, snuff, and seed, so obtained, for the examination of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. The superior quality of the indigenous tobacco of Berar makes it all the more probable that further trial will be found to support the results which are believed to have been arrived at as regards the cultivation of the American exotic in these districts.

286. The exhibition held at Akolah in 1868, whatever may have been its results, cannot be said to have imparted to the Berar cultivators any decided taste for European machinery, as applied to the processes of agriculture. And there are many good and sufficient reasons why the agricultural classes of the province should, under existing circumstances, regard with little favour any but the very simplest implements of husbandry.

SECTION III.—IMPROVEMENT OF THE BREED OF HORSES; HORNED CATTLE; AND SHEEP.

Horses.

287. The upper classes of Berar prefer, as a rule, the well-padded bullock-coach to the saddle; a circumstance which has probably had its own share in bringing about the deteriorated form now presented by the indigenous horse of the province. The administration has done at least something towards inciting the people to supply themselves with better horses; and Arab stallions have long been located in most of the districts. But whether it is because these were not of the right kind; or because due means were not taken to encourage their being resorted to; or because of the inferior quality of the mares themselves; or whatever the explanation may be, the fact has unfortunately to be noted that very little success has hitherto

attended our efforts to improve the breed of horses. It is certain that if horses suitable for the native cavalry of the Contingent, or for the batteries of artillery, could be bred by the Berar land-holders, these would find a market at prices which, while very remunerative to their owners, would show a good margin on the profit side when compared with those now actually paid for Persians and Gulph Arabs as remounts for the above two branches of the service. Among the nobles and military chiefs of Hyderabad, too, there is a very great demand for horses; and animals from many different quarters of Asia are exposed for sale in the city horse-markets. But few, if any, of these are contributed by the Assigned Districts, whose inhabitants may be said to have up to this time resisted all our attempts to convert them into breeders of horses.

Ponies.

288. During the past year, the experiment was resolved on of substituting for one or two of the least used Government stallions located in the province small but stout Arab galloways, of the purest blood procurable, and calculated, at all events, to improve the breed of ponies. The pony, or *tattoo*, is still much used in Berar, not only in carrying loads to and from the market-towns, but also for riding purposes. And it is a common object on the roads, a small creature of this kind jogging along under the double weight of a villager or other traveller and his wife, or perhaps carrying the wife and children together with a fair amount of household goods, while the husband brings up the rear on foot. Very few of the merits, however, which belonged to the Dakhan pony of twenty years ago can now be recognized in the *tattoos* of Berar, greatly in request as they are. Perhaps the means recently taken for their improvement may meet with some success. And, if so, that may possibly even pave the way for a better kind of horse as well as pony being, after a time, bred in Berar. At present, the total number of mares over 14 hands in height in the province is said not to exceed 110; while the number of galloway mares between thirteen and fourteen hands is roughly estimated at 414. The mares are said to be better than the horses in point of blood, though still very deficient both in substance and *quality*. If, however, a taste for horse-breeding were once created among the agriculturists, they would soon discover that it costs no more to keep a good mare than a bad one. Superior mares might then begin to be imported from parts of India where they are to be found, such as Katteeawar; more especially if periodical horse-shows were held in every district, and liberal prizes awarded for the best stock. What-

ever the actual capabilities of Berar itself may be in this respect, the subject at least has seemed to deserve consideration; because if Government could induce the inhabitants of suitable districts to breed, in their own interests, horses adapted for the public service, perhaps that would be found a cheaper and altogether better system to pursue than relying exclusively on importation from beyond seas, or even on costly horse-breeding establishments maintained by the State itself.

Horned Cattle.

289. Bullocks are much used in Berar both for draught purposes and as beasts of burden. These, of all other domestic animals, are the ones on which the people pride themselves; and they will sometimes pay as much as 250 rupees (£25,) for a superior pair, though the average price is not more than 80 or 100 rupees (£8 to £10.) They can hardly be considered to have responded, however, to such attempts as have been made by us for the improvement of the indigenous breed, which, though rather small as compared with that of Guzarat and some other parts of the Bombay Presidency, is wiry, and probably well adapted to the country. Two Nellore bulls which had been purchased from local funds in the Buldanah district, and placed at the disposal of the community, were so little resorted to that they have recently been disposed of. On the whole, it is to be feared that the number of horned cattle in the Assigned Districts has undergone a considerable diminution during recent years.

Sheep.

290. Sheep of good quality are bred in tolerable numbers in some of the talukahs. The subject of their improvement seems not as yet to have attracted attention; and indeed it must be confessed that the conditions of Berar in respect of natural pasturage and other circumstances do not hold out any great encouragement for undertaking experiments of this nature.

SECTION IV.—FAIRS.

291. The blending of commercial, religious, and pleasure-seeking objects which characterises Fairs in this country in general is a remarkable feature of those held throughout the Assigned Districts. Recognizing their importance in the first of the above three capacities, the officers of the administration bestow much care on their regulation; and in connecting their principal sites, by means

of roads, with as many of the adjoining centres of trade as possible. The total number of such gatherings held during the year amounted to four: at which 409,951 persons are said to have been present. On one of these occasions, when the object of the annual assemblage was to visit a famous temple dedicated to Balajee, which is situated at Dewalgaon, near Buldanah, and when the number of visitors during the 19 days of the continuance of the Fair was computed at 80,000, the offerings laid before the idol were believed to have been equal to one and-a-half lakh of rupees (£15,000) in value. The exertions of the Magistracy and of the Police for the preservation of order, and enforcement of sanitary precautions, at all these Fairs alike were so successful as to deserve special mention; no outbreak of cholera or other epidemic having anywhere occurred during the year; while, at the same time, thieves seem to have been held most effectually in check.

Commercial transactions at Fairs.

292. The aggregate value of the property of all kinds brought for sale, taking all the Fairs of the province together, was computed at rupees 19,27,545 (£192,755); of which rupees 14,67,500 (£146,750) worth was sold. The articles sold consisted chiefly of English piece-goods, country manufactures, and raw produce. It is to be regretted that statistics are not available showing the quantity and value of the different kinds of merchandize respectively; but it is satisfactory to note that the lump figures quoted above indicate a decided improvement on the figures registered under this head in the previous year.

Rural Markets.

293. The week'y markets which are held at all the towns and large villages are said to have flourished remarkably during the year; and afforded the usual indications not only of the important place which these still occupy in the social and commercial life of the people, but also of the general prosperity of the province itself.

SECTION V.—HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE DISPENSARIES.

Number of Institutions.

294. Altogether, there are 21 charitable institutions in the Assigned Districts. Of these, 15 are charitable dispensaries proper; and six civil hospitals, at four of which pauper patients receive medical treatment. The whole of the dispensaries are maintained on the grant-in-aid system; and two

of their number are ranked as first-class, two as second-class, and 11 as third-class. Nothing of the nature of a Lunatic Asylum, or of a Poor-house, has as yet been provided in Berar. The want of the former, as may be supposed, is much felt. A good deal of difficulty continues to be experienced in obtaining the services of even moderately qualified Superintendents and Dressers. This has been specially observable during the past year, owing to seven new dispensaries having been opened.

In spite of all that has been done during the two past years by the administration, it cannot be said that more than a beginning has been made towards adequately extending the means of medical relief among the inhabitants of the province. But it may be hoped that, in proportion as the people become familiarized with the benefits which charitable dispensaries confer, will their own efforts in this direction be increased. The main difficulty experienced in extending the number of dispensaries is found in the fact that competent medical officers to superintend them are but rarely to be met with.

Number of persons treated.

295. The statistics of the past year show a rise of 165·06 *per cent.*, in the total number of persons who were treated: the figures standing at 4,731 in 1868, and 12,540 in 1869. Of these, 9,130 were male, and 3,410 female patients. Separating in-door from out-door patients, it appears that the number of the former was only 196. This is chiefly attributable to the very limited accommodation contained in most of the buildings. Neither is it desirable that funds designed for the relief of the many should be absorbed in the care of a few; as would be the case were these institutions converted to any considerable extent into infirmaries.

Dispensary Vaccination.

296. An attempt was made during the year to carry out vaccination operations in connection with the dispensaries; but the results were not all that they might have been, and doubtless will be, now that the control of the dispensaries has been entrusted to an officer located in Berar itself.

Finance.

297. The total income of the dispensaries amounted during the year to rupees 18,799 (£1,880); of which sum rupees 5,050 (£505) represented the Government grant, that is the grant from the provincial revenue; rupees 12,761 contributions from Local Funds; and rupees 988 private subscriptions. The expenditure under all headings came to rupees

25,981 (£2,599); and exceeded by rupees 18,135 (£1,813) that of the previous year. Two-thirds of this increase was incurred in providing new buildings, and one-third in entertaining establishments for the seven new dispensaries opened during the year.

SECTION VI.—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

Sanitation.

298. Under this heading also the appointment of a special officer to Berar itself has to be noted as a point gained during the year under review. It may be that the Assigned Districts, as compared with some of our older provinces have still a certain amount of ground to make up in respect of sanitation. At the same time, though over-administration in a department where patience and forbearance are so eminently called for has been guarded against, it may be said that a commencement has been made during the last few years towards popularizing a higher standard of sanitation than that which naturally recommends itself to large classes of the people of this and other countries.

Registration.

299. As regards registration of vital statistics, it appears that 93 *per cent.* of the total population were under registration during the year.

Registering Agency.

300. The agency employed for this purpose consisted until quite recently of the Tahseeldars; a special clerk being posted under the orders of these officials at every Tahseelee, and employed in the work of registration. But this system has now been abandoned; and the work will in future be carried on by the Municipal and District police.

Analysis of Returns.

301. The following abstract gives the ratio of births and deaths per thousand of population; though, unfortunately, statistics are not available to show the proportion of female births and deaths to male births and deaths, or of infant deaths to adult deaths:—

	Urban.	Rural.
Births per thousand of population	13·7	17·0
Deaths do.	21·0	23·3

In explanation of the deaths having exceeded the births by 14 *per cent.* the circumstance is noted that the large influx of strangers which occurred during the year consisted chiefly of the unmarried classes; whose mode of life, moreover, rendered them specially susceptible of disease. Deaths also are much less likely to escape registration than births. No returns under the heading of marriages have been obtained.

Of the total number of deaths, the proportion attributable to the principal diseases is thus stated, and compared with that of the previous year:—

	1868.			1869.	
	Urban.	Rural.		Urban.	Rural.
Fever;	21·5	29 8	.....	30· 9	26· 3
Cholera;	13·2	10·4	.....	23· 4	23· 0
Small-pox;	8 0	14 1	.....	11· 1	14·09
Bowel diseases;	20 0	17 7	.....	11· 9	13· 2
Other diseases;	30 2	25·4	.....	20· 7	21· 6
Miscellaneous;	2·8	3 5	.....	1 82	1·68

It will be observed from the above statement that an increase under many of the headings has marked the year's rate of mortality. But as the total death-rate of the whole province, namely 1 in 47, is not abnormally high, it seems probable that wherever an increase has had to be noted, that result has been due merely to registration having been more carefully conducted in 1869 than in 1868. Fever and cholera claimed 27 and 23 *per cent.* respectively of the total number of victims. And as these diseases are supposed to be in a greater degree than most others combatable by means of sanitary precautions, a considerable reduction in the death-rate may reasonably be hoped for. The highest death-rate from fever occurred in the Ellichpur District, and the lowest in Buldanah; the figures having been 31·7, and 15·5 respectively. This is quite in accordance with the prevailing opinion as regards the climate of the two districts. The mortality from small-pox was as high as 13·4; a fact which shows how much need there is for increased energy being infused into the department of vaccination.

On the whole, it may be said that, if the field presented by Berar for the cultivation of sanitary science and the introduction of sanitary improvement is in some senses a wide one, it is at the same time a most hopeful one.

SECTION VII.—VACCINATION.

State of native mind regarding.

302. With the remarkable fact before us which was recorded only last year in the newspapers that an educated medical man in England preferred to suffer a criminal prosecution rather than subject his family to what he considered the evils of vaccination, it need hardly surprise us that popular feeling in the Assigned Districts with regard to this operation should resemble that prevalent throughout Europe in Doctor Jenner's own day more nearly than it does the view which is common in this nineteenth century. The unceasing efforts both of the District Officers and of the special vaccination department itself are gradually, however, dispelling the mists of native prejudice in this matter, and inducing the people to submit themselves and their children to the vaccinator's lancet.

Operations of the year.

303. In all, 7,920 persons were vaccinated during the year; and successful results were obtained in about 81·4 *per cent.* of the cases. The proportion of successful to unsuccessful cases was higher in 1869 than in the previous year by 426·14 *per cent.* During the six months when the age and sex of those vaccinated were recorded, nearly 53 *per cent.* of the whole number were males; and rather less than 15 *per cent.* were under one year of age.

Expenditure.

304. The cost of the vaccination establishment* and of its operations during the year amounted to rupees 4,481 (£ 448); so that each successful operation would appear to have cost not less than As. 10, p. 11 (1*s.* 4*d.*); exclusive of the allowances of the Superintendent; who fills the combined offices of Sanitary Commissioner, and Superintendent of Jails and Dispensaries, and of Vaccination.

305. Vaccination is a branch of Administration with regard to which much improvement upon the results hitherto shown is not only called for, but may reasonably be regarded as in fair course of attainment; partly as the natural consequence of the good foundation

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* Head Vaccinators 2
First Class do. 1
Second Class do. 7
Third Class do. 9

already laid; and still more owing to the Department being now presided over by an officer posted to Berar itself.

SECTION VIII.—ARBORICULTURE.

Without entering into details which might be devoid of other than a merely local interest, it may be said generally that the subject of adding to the foliage of the Assigned Districts by the planting of trees, and formation of nurseries, groves, and avenues, in all suitable localities, has received a fair share of attention during the past year.

Co-operation of land-holders.

306. Under the *raiatwaree* system of settlement, the land-holders themselves are perhaps less apt to plant trees than they are under different circumstances; because fields change hands more rapidly than villages, and the property in trees does not wholly go with the property in land. The burden of maintaining groves and avenues thus falls upon the State itself, in the case of Berar, more than it does in some other parts of India.

Planting of seedlings.

307. The following passage is extracted from a report by the Commissioner of East Berar, and embodies his views on the best system of planting trees:—

"The most economical manner of planting an avenue is to grow the seedlings in flower-pots. The seed would be put in at the commencement of the monsoon in June. After one year, namely when the next monsoon sets in, the seedlings, still in the flower-pots, are carted out to the site for planting, where holes have been previously prepared. The gardener then takes a pot, and gives it a small tap or two, which causes it to crack, and fall in pieces, leaving the earth (seedling and roots intact) in his hand. This he places in the hole; and the thing is done. The advantage of the system is this, that, from the roots having remained unharmed, the seedling will never require to be watered. If fenced round, and protected from cattle, it will take care of itself, and will flourish. This saves two years of watering. And as watering trees at places where there is no stream, and where the wells are miles apart, forms nine-tenths of the expense attending our arboricultural efforts, the system I have mentioned, which has succeeded admirably in Khandeish, is well worth adopting."

SECTION IX.—MINERAL RESOURCES.

Discovery of Coal-mines in Berar.

308. From certain important discoveries which have been made during the past year, there seems no longer any reason to doubt that the mineral resources of the Assigned Districts may truly be described as immense. That portions of these districts contained valuable coal and iron deposits was brought to notice some years ago; and in 1866 the Government of India sanctioned further researches being undertaken in the Woon District. Early in 1867, a large quantity of surface coal was procured from Koombaree in Woon, on the banks of the river Wurdah, and sent to the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company for experiment. This coal had been picked up from the surface; and, as might have been expected, proved of an inferior description; exposure to the weather having seriously affected its quality. The results obtained were, however, thought sufficiently encouraging to indicate the desirability of further explorations being made; and in 1869 the Geological Survey Department of the Government of India entered upon a detailed and systematic examination of the whole district. These explorations were carried on during the cold season of 1869-70, under the immediate superintendence of Mr. Hughes, Assistant in the Geological Survey, and with more satisfactory results than could have been hoped for. It now appears, from the researches made, that, though the Chandah coal fields on the eastern side of the Wurdah were first taken up, and have thus attained as it were an established name, yet the great mass of coal, or five-sixths of the whole, lies to the west of the river, and within the confines of Berar.

309. The exploration of the two districts was carried on simultaneously; and the following information has been recorded from notes kindly furnished by Mr. Hughes.

Extent and site of Coal fields.

The total area of the fields exceeds one thousand square miles; of which only about 560 square miles have been carefully surveyed. The fields lie on both sides of the Wurdah; and the most appropriate name for the whole is, doubtless, that which has been adopted by the Geological Department, namely: "the Wurdah Coal fields."* Full particulars of the survey will very soon be published in the official re-

* A glance at the map will show that the Wurdah forms part of the natural boundary between Berar and the Central Provinces.

cord of the Geological Survey of India; but the results of researches in Berar, as far as have been ascertained, may be summarized as follows:—

The series that enter into the geological construction of the whole area are:—

1. Vindhyan;	6	*Vide geological map of Berar coal-fields prefacing this section.*
2. Talchir;	5	
3. Damuda;	4	
4. Kamthi;	3	
5. Trappean;	2	
6. Laterite;	1	

The Damudas are represented only by one lithologically recognizable Bengal group, namely the Barakar; in which lie all the workable beds of coal that have as yet been met with in the Wurdah field. The borings show that coal occurs over almost the entire area of the field. The only subtractions that have to be made are of the eight square miles occupied by the Talchirs; the 10 square miles occupied by the Barakars; and a few miles for the overlapping of the Kamthis, say 10 square miles, or a total of 28 square miles. The area of the field is 149 square miles. The average thickness of the coal is 40 feet: one of the borings showing seams aggregating 70 feet in thickness. The total amount of coal therefore is $(149—28) \times 40 \times 1{,}000{,}000$* or 4,840,000,000 tons. Dr. Oldham is understood to have estimated the quantity at only 484 millions of tons; but this has reference merely to the amount which may be considered economically accessible, according to the present system of working in India, and the generally received ideas as regards workable depth. This amount, however, would, at the present rate of consumption of coal in all India, last for 800 years.

Value of Berar Coal fields.

310. The whole of that portion of the field which is situated on the western or Berar side of the Wurdah has this great advantage, that all the coal is to be found at a comparatively easy working depth. The further that researches have been pushed, the more valuable the coal fields have proved. From accounts lately received, the latest boring, put down at a place called Pisga, struck coal at 77 feet from the surface, and pierced 30 feet of coal without passing through the seam. The coal thus brought to light has been pronounced "of superior quality to any yet found." Experiments lately made by the Great Indian Pe-

* One foot thickness of coal in a square mile represents, as nearly as possible, one million tons of coal.

ninsula Railway Company with specimens of Chanda coal show that very considerable advantage would be gained by the Railway Company in using this coal. Even if we were to assume that two tons of Chanda coal would be required to do the work of only one ton of best English coal, still the saving would probably amount to not less than rupees 10, on an average, on every ton of coal now consumed.

Iron.

311. Recent geological researches have also led to the discovery of some very valuable beds of iron ore in the Woon district, south of Yeotmahal. These, no doubt, were worked many hundreds of years ago; and were abandoned very likely for want of proper fuel. In former years, they were made the subject of a report by the late Mr. Mulheran, who specially mentioned Yeotmahal and Oomrawuttee as rich in iron deposits; adding that Yeotmahal alone could yield iron sufficient to supply all the railways in India. Some of the beds are now reported to have been examined; and the minimum thickness shown is stated at 9 feet of ore. In one place a bed 17 feet in thickness was found. The assay of different specimens of this ore showed that it contained an average percentage of from 53 to 68·5 of iron: and specimens of slag gave, under assay, as high a percentage as 34·8 of iron.

312. The following remarks by the Officiating Superintending Engineer, Hyderabad Assigned Districts, may form a fitting conclusion to this section:—

"The value of these discoveries," writes Major Mayne, "may literally be said to be incalculable. The existence of the iron ores, no doubt, has long been known; but from the difficulty of access to them, and the scarcity of fuel, and also from experiments in the smelting of iron in other parts of India, there was nothing very encouraging to attempt the working of them; but now it is shown that, alongside of iron of a most valuable description, for a length of ten miles or more lies the fuel to work it. A Railway could be carried down to the very heart of these fields, at a comparatively moderate cost, and is now under consideration of the Government of India. By running it to Davergaon, a station on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, only one river of any importance has to be crossed; and a railway could be constructed at a cost of about £4,000 per mile. These iron ores and coal fields are certainly deserving of the notice of capitalists; and every encouragement should be given to any pioneers who would undertake to commence work. No doubt, here lies the site of the future 'Black country' of Western India."

SECTION X.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

The following notes on some of the principal archæological features of the Assigned Districts have been put together from materials collected with his usual ability and assiduity by the Commissioner of West Berar:—

Oldest Archæological relic in Berar.

313. "The oldest relic of man's handiwork," writes Mr. Lyall, "now known in Berar may be guessed to be the plain Buddhist monastery cut out of the basalt rock close by the town of Pathur, Akolah district. It consists of two colonnades on massive rough-hewn pillars, with adyta inside; it has no images or carving of any kind. Probably several other such rock-dwellings exist: there is one near Manjiara in the Mel-Ghat; but no more are known to Europeans."

Ancient Hindoo Temples.

314. "Throughout Berar are a number of temples and religious habitations,* more or less ruined, built of stones very carefully dressed and adjusted, the oldest, apparently, without any cement—all with very little of it—in the solid fashion of architects who distrusted the arch, and laid massive stone lintels over monolithic pillars. Some of these are of plain stones, others elaborately carved; grotesque brackets often surmount the pillars; and the chambers are usually roofed by horizontal domes of the kind described in Fergusson's architecture. Inscriptions have been discovered on two of these buildings, but have not yet been deciphered." By far the finest specimen in Berar of this early Hindoo architecture is stated by Mr. Lyall to be the temple at Lunar, near the well-known salt lake of the same name. This is built in the irregular starlike shape common in the Dakhan; the outside walls are covered with figures and other carvings "of luxuriant variety;" it stands on a raised basement; and the unfinished roof seems intended to take a pyramidal form. Of the lesser temples belonging to the same class, may be mentioned two or three handsome buildings near Buldanah; the remarkable ruin at Meh-

* "These are called *Hemar Pantee* by the natives, being supposed to have been built in one night by demons, for whom one Hemar Pant, a famous physician and magician—the Cornelius Agrippa of the Dakhan—found himself obliged to devise some employment."

kar;* a very pretty Jain shrine at Sirpur, with a curiously carved ceiling; a small but interesting temple at Parsee Taklee; and two temples at Pusad.

Architecture of the Muhammadans.

315. In Musalman architecture, two "very creditable" mosques in the Buldanah district, one bearing date 1582 A. D., are noticed by Mr. Lyall; also a few specimens about the Ellichpur city; and the large mosque at Gawalgarh. Certain projecting balcony windows on each side of the fine inner gateway of the Narnala fortress are referred to as affording the best sample of architectural details in a Muhammadan building to be met with in the province. The fortification of Narnala itself, which is situated near Chikuldah in East Berar, is thus described by Captain Farrer, Assistant Commissioner:—

Narnala.

"The fort of Narnala, which is built on a hill 3,161 feet above the level of the sea, is said to contain in all nearly fourteen miles of ramparts; but this is doubtful. It consists of three contiguous forts, the centre or largest occupying all the upper plateau of the hill, whilst the two

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* "This interesting archæological remain is described as follows by Major Gill, the talented artist who was employed for a number of years by the Government of India in photographing the figures on the rock-cut temples at Ajanta, and whose labours, more recently, in connection with the archæology of the Assigned Districts are favourably known to Government:—

"This building is erected on a small spur of a hill projecting from the lower or western part of the town of Mehkar, and almost reaches the bed of the Paeen Ganga river It is of a different type to any I have yet seen There is in the centre an open and sunken court-yard 21 feet 10 inches square, descended by two steps in each face, it is surrounded by a verandah supported by three colonnades, consisting altogether of sixty columns; the verandah is closed in on all four sides, there being but one entrance through a small door on the eastern side. The walls are ornamented with pillasters thirty-two in number, there being one opposite each row of pillars The erection is 73 feet 4 inches in depth, by 72 feet 9½ inches in width. The columns are the principal feature of the interior; in general style, they resemble those of the oldest temples all over Western India, but they are almost *fac-similes* of some to be met with in the very oldest Jain Temples in Guzarat. The base and lower third, or two-fifths, of the column is square; and from the plinth on each side, to the level of the upper member of the base mouldings springs a triangular facet; this is repeated in front of the double scotias and fillets that terminate the square portion The next member is a deep octagonal band, carved with leaves The remainder of the shaft may be considered as circular, rusticated by a square block and a thin octagonal band carved with geometrical patterns. Above the block, the shaft is ornamented with scotias and toruses, interrupted by triangular facets on four sides. The capitals are shallow, with a square thin fascia surmounting a circular fillet and *cyma recta*, separated from the shaft by a torus The capital is surmounted by a surcapital of the quadrental bracket form. The style and construction of the roof also are identical with the oldest Guzarat Temples, and may possibly have been historically connected with the more western styles, through the Chalukya Dynasty that ruled at Devurgiri, now Dowlutabad. The columns are nearly equi-distant, varying from 6 feet 5 inches to 7 feet, and not exceeding 8 feet in height; and are so arranged, that every four form a square or nearly so; and from capital to capital large slabs of stone are laid for support of the roof. From centre to centre, of these architraves, others are placed diagonally, covering in the corners, and leaving a smaller square in centre, the corners of which are again enclosed after the same fashion, leaving a still smaller square, which is finally shut in by one large slab, usually ornamented by a rosette in the centre; over this three or four feet of debris complete the roof. In this erection no cement of any kind has been used; the stones being cut so as exactly to fit one upon the other."

smaller or outer ones inclose two considerable spurs running out at opposite angles on a lower level, and in the direction of the length of the hill, which is from north-east to south-west. These separate strong-holds are known as the Teliagarh, Jafarabad, and Narnala fortifications. The ramparts consist generally of a wall varying from 25 to 40 feet in height, with flanking towers—67 in all—six large and twenty-one small gates. There are 19 tanks within the walls, but of these only four hold water the whole year round. The interior of the main citadel is covered with buildings more or less in decay—there are extensive ruins of the old palace, a mosque called after Aurangzeeb, a Baradaree, Silah Khanah, Nagar Khanah, &c. There are also four very curious stone cisterns covered in by a masonry platform with small apertures, while on this platform are the remains of arches. The water preserved in these cisterns is remarkably sweet and cool. They are supposed to have been built by the Jain princes who held this country before the Musalman conquest, since many votaries of that sect drink no water on which the sun has fallen. Perhaps the most striking and beautiful feature in the whole fort is the Shanur gate on the south ; the design has been elegantly conceived and most skilfully executed in white sandstone. The panellings about the gateway are filled with extracts from the Kuran chiselled in the Arabic character. On either side of the gate are projecting balconies, all in keeping with the rest. The open stone lattice-work, the rich cornice, and tracery are all in such perfect harmony one with another, and the proportions of the whole is so good, that a person cannot fail to be struck with the beauty of this remarkable specimen of Pathan architecture. On the west of the hill, looking southward, lies a large gun, with a Persian inscription reciting that it was first set up and used in 1670, when Aurangzeeb had the fort."

Progress during 1869-70.

316. No progress in archæological research was made to any extent worth special record, during the past year in Berar. Of the remains of early Hindoo architecture which lie scattered over the province, especially over the hill country above the Ajantah Ghats, a few more specimens have been photographed by Major Gill. The inscriptions on the temples at Barsee Taklee, and Pinjar, have been copied, but not yet deciphered, because good impressions were not taken, and the characters have been much abraded and injured. The Barsee Taklee inscription has been sent to the Asiatic Societies of Bombay and Calcutta. No fresh antiquarian discoveries have been reported; though it is hoped interesting results will be obtained when the eastern and south-eastern districts come to be explored. Numerous ancient inscriptions on Muhammadan buildings have been copied and translated during the year. The destruction of Hindoo temples would appear to have formed a marked feature in the spread of the Muhammadan soldiery over the province: and carved stones from such temples are to be seen in the walls of most of the fortified towns. It is, therefore, in those parts of Berar to which the Islamite invader did not penetrate that Hindoo relics are now most frequent.

SECTION XI.—TRADE STATISTICS.

The information furnished by the district officers with reference to Trade Statistics is hardly such as to admit of this topic being treated of in the present Report as fully as its importance deserves. Indeed the results shown by some of the returns which have been received bear such palpable indication of error that it has not been thought safe to detail them, far less to attempt drawing conclusions from them. It may be said that since cotton forms *par excellence* the trade-staple of Berar, the subject has been sufficiently analysed in the chapter specially devoted to that product. But while this to a certain extent holds good, the necessity of carefully watching the condition of the trade of the province as a whole is certainly not thus diminished, but indeed rather increased. And means will be used to commend these enquiries more than ever to the attention of the officers of the administration for the future. Tolerably satisfactory arrangements exist for registering the exterior and interior trade of the province, 24 outposts being maintained for this purpose in East, and nine in West Berar. Thus all that is required to secure accurate results is care and intelligence on the part of those entrusted with the actual work of registration.

317. Meanwhile the following facts are noted regarding the statistics of the past year.

Extent of Traffic.

Although detailed returns are, unfortunately, not available under this head, it may be said generally that the results of the year, when compared with those of the previous year, show a decrease of 10,416 tons in the quantity of goods, but an increase of rupees 23,66,596 (£236,660) in value; while the figures under live stock show a decrease of 24,212 head, or rupees 2,54,417 (£25,442) worth.

The fact that, owing to the lateness of the season, a great deal of cotton remained in the hands of the cultivators, or at least had not been exported from the province, when the year closed, goes far to explain the decrease in the item of goods.

A decrease of 42,320 maunds in the quantity of wheat exported, and an increase of 78,328 maunds in the aggregate quantity imported, during the past as compared with the preceding year are noted; and are accounted for by the inferior out-turn of this cereal during the year.

The trade in rice would appear to have increased, in exports by 73,171 maunds; and in imports by 92,657.

With regard to other edible grains, while the imports increased by 71,565 maunds, the exports decreased by 1,55,436.

The sugar trade seems to have improved, on the import side by 59,032 maunds; and on that of export by 4,940 maunds.

The imports of salt are shown to have increased during the year by 32,580 maunds; and its exports by 14,744 maunds.

The trade in English piece goods, European miscellaneous goods, and country cloth has also undergone improvement; the exports having increased by 43,152 maunds, and the imports by 85,061.

PART B.

MILITARY.

CHAPTER I.

HYDERABAD SUBSIDIARY FORCE.

Historical.

318. In the days when Great Britain and France were engaged in settling the question which should be masters of Hindoostan, it was the good fortune of the Nawwabs, or Soobahdars, of the Dakhan to be attached to what ultimately proved the winning side. Their armies were associated with our own in several campaigns; and their Ministers and nobles had then an opportunity of witnessing the results which bravery combined with discipline can attain.

Hence, perhaps, the policy which was early initiated, and has been steadfastly pursued by successive Nizams, of maintaining at every cost an alliance with the British Government; even the cession of large tracts of country being accounted but a fair equivalent for the aid of our invincible soldiers against their enemies.

And while we have undoubtedly derived from our connection with Hyderabad the full share of support which we had a right to expect, we have but to ask what has become of the Peshwa, and of the dynasty of Haidar Alee, in order to understand all that our alliance has proved to the Hyderabad State itself.

So long ago as the year 1766, we find the then Nawwab of Hyderabad, Nizam Alee, entering into a treaty with the British Government in which he stipulated for the assistance of a subsidiary Force, not, however, as a permanent establishment, but merely when he might require it: and on his own part ceded to us in return no fewer than five broad and fertile districts.* Such was the origin of the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force in its present form.

A subsequent treaty, namely that of 1798, placed the Force permanently at the disposal of the native government: while the treaty of 1800, again, provided for a considerable augmentation of its strength; and conveyed to us in full sovereignty the present districts of Bellary and Cuddapah in consideration of it's being kept up.

The territory thus transferred, it should be noted, was but a recent acquisition of the Hyderabad government, having formed the Nizam's share, under the treaties of Seringapatam and Mysore, of the conquests made in the two campaigns which had ended in these treaties respectively. And thus tracts of country which had passed into His Highness' possession chiefly through the instrumentality of British battalions were appropriately made over to us as a means of defraying the cost of a permanent military body for the defence of his dominions.

The gross annual revenue of the ceded territory, including Kurnool, now amounts to eighty-one and a quarter lakhs of rupees (£812,500.) The districts themselves, as Government is aware, form an integral portion of the Madras Presidency, and are not in the slightest degree subject to the Resident's administration. Unlike the ASSIGNED DISTRICTS of Berar, these CEDED DISTRICTS thus form British territory pure and simple, though treaty obligations require us to maintain from their revenues a certain armament.

* Bargaining, however, that when he was not using these troops he should receive an annual money payment of nine lakhs of rupees (£90,000) in lieu of their services.

Location of the Force.

319. The Hyderabad subsidiary force, instead of being distributed, like the Hyderabad Contingent, over the face of His Highness' territory, is now massed in the cantonment of Secunderabad, which is situated about four miles to the north of the capital. Standing 1,850 feet above the level of the sea, and in the midst of a finely undulating country, the gravel soil of which carries off the rain soon after it has fallen, Secunderabad possesses many natural advantages.

The following table shows the principal meteorological features of the locality for the last ten years:—

	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.
Atmospheric pressure.	27·639	27·656	27·667	28·169	28·141	28·088	28·095	28·083	28·026	28·022
Mean temperature ...	81 3	80·3	80 8	78·4	77 5	79·1	79 6	78·8	81·1	82·7
Mean humidity ...	50	53	53	59	59	59	58	67	58	62
Prevailing winds ...	N and N. E.	N. and N. E.	N. and N. W. and N. W.	N E. by E. and S. W. and W.	S. E. and W.	W and N. E.	N. E.	N. E.	N. E.	N. W. by W. and W. and N. W.

The most common diseases are fever of a comparatively mild type, dysentery, and rheumatism. The annual rain-fall averages 26 inches.

Importance strategically.

320. In a strategical point of view, the importance of the military position at Secunderabad can hardly be overstated. During a period of trouble, Hyderabad would form again, as it has done before, one of the most critical spots in the whole of India. The Nizam's own government might, or might not, prove strong enough to control the numerous elements of disturbance which abound in the capital, and indeed throughout the country. Therefore, a great deal would depend on the efficiency of this detached body of British soldiers, which is stationed in the heart of a foreign country, and, pending the completion of the Hyderabad and Kulbargah railway, is separated to a remarkable degree from its proper military supports. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army was able to carry out a thorough inspection of the force, both in barrack-room and on parade-ground, during the year; and formed, it is believed, on the whole, a highly favourable opinion of its condition. The advantages of these inspections being made regularly every year are obvious.

Strength of the Force.

321. This is shown in the following table:—

Artillery.				Cavalry.				Infantry.				Sappers and Miners.				Total Strength		
No. of Batteries.		Strength.		No. of Regiments.		Strength.		No. of Regiments.		Strength.		No. of Companies.		Strength.				
European.	Native.	Europeans.	Natives.	European.	Native.	Europeans.	Natives.	European.	Native.	Europeans.	Natives.	European.	Native.	Europeans.	Natives.	Europeans.	Natives.	Grand Total.
5	1	512	151	1	1	428	313	2	3	1,476	1,930	0	2	7	353	2,423	2,747	5,170

These all belong to the regular military establishment of the Presidency of Fort Saint George; and now form a Major-General's command.

Barrack-accommodation.

322. During the last fifteen years, the work of barrack-building has been proceeding on a large scale near Secunderabad. The object is to transfer the European portion of the garrison from their old quarters close to the native town of Secunderabad to a more salubrious and eligible site three miles further from the capital, and now well known as Trimulgherry. This work gradually approaches completion. All the European artillery and infantry have been located at Trimulgherry, in barracks built on the most approved system.* Similar quarters are under erection for the regiment of European cavalry.

The sums which have been spent annually during the last eight years in providing improved barrack accommodation for European soldiers here were as follows:—

Years.	Rupees.		£
1862-63	1,18,008	=	11,801
1863-64	2,10,271	=	21,027
1864-65	2,93,015	=	29,301
1865-66	3,52,118	=	35,212
1866-67	3,22,438	=	32,244
1867-68	5,75,827	=	57,583
1868-69	4,03,122	=	40,312
1869-70	3,22,706	=	32,271
Grand Total...	25,97,505	=	259,750

* The cost of which is of course defrayed from British Imperial Revenue, that is, as a matter of account, from the revenue of the Ceded Districts.

Subjoined is another statement showing the death-rate among European soldiers which has marked the same years respectively :—

Years	Average strength.	No of deaths.	Percentage of deaths to strength.
1862	3,150	38	1·20
1863	2,350	32	1·36
1864	2,566	26	1·01
1865	2,998	59	1·96
1866	2,810	84	2·98
1867	2,639	58	2·19
1868	2,417	60	2·48
1869	2,450	66	2·79

Fortified Posts.

323. The fortified post at Trimulgherry, the construction of which is now nearly completed, will be more fully described under the heading of Imperial Public Works. It may, however, be noted in passing that the entrenchment referred to, though not faultless in point of site, is well fitted to withstand for any necessary length of time the attacks of the most numerous native assailants that could possibly be brought against it; while the possession of a stronghold of this nature would enable the greater part of the subsidiary Force itself to move out with safety, in times of emergency, should it be thought advisable to do so. Another work of older date adjoins, and more or less commands, the native town of Secunderabad.

Prevention of contagious diseases.

324. Acts of the Imperial legislature are, as occasion requires, by an executive order of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council declared applicable to Secunderabad. Although the enactment for the prevention of contagious diseases is not one of those which have been so extended, yet rules framed under Act XXII. of 1864 with the same object in view have long been carefully and successfully administered in the cantonment bazars. This subject is mentioned here because of its close bearing on the health and efficiency of the European soldiers of the garrison. During the past year, the consent of His Highness' government was obtained to the introduction of the sanitary measures contemplated under the rules in question into all villages situated within a radius of four miles from cantonment. There is an excellent hospital in Secunderabad, in connection with this particular object; and 204 patients were received in

the course of the year. The extent to which this form of disease prevailed among the British soldiers during the period from 1865 to 1869 was as follows:—

YEARS.	Average strength.	Number of admissions.	Percentage of admissions to strength.
1865	2,998	412	13·74
1866	2,810	379	13·48
1867	2,639	246	9·32
1868	2,417	417	17·25
1869[a]	2,450	407	16 51
Total ...	13,314	1,861	13·97

Charitable Dispensary.

325. Besides the special hospital just alluded to, there is a charitable dispensary, which is supported chiefly by subscription. It has accommodation for 70 patients; and the average daily attendance of out-patients during the year was 62.

Orphanage.

326. In addition to the usual regimental schools, there is an institution for the reception of orphans of European soldiers which deserves to be mentioned. The number of children sheltered and educated in it during the past year was 35. Eight of these were new admissions; while one boy and one girl were apprenticed to a trade, or provided with a home, during the same period. The total expenditure incurred was rupees 5,035 (£503): of which sum Government contributed rupees 2,997 (£299.) The remainder was raised by subscription.

Schools.

327. Secunderabad has 41 native schools, with an aggregate of 1,192 scholars. They may be classed as follows, *viz.*:—

	Number.	No of pupils.
English schools	5	254
Telugoo do.	27	698
Tamil do.	4	103
Persian and Oordoo	8	137
Total ...	44	1,192

6½ *per cent.* of the children under instruction were girls.

Local Vernacular.

328. Telugoo is the vernacular of the people of Secunderabad; but the influx of native followers with regiments from all parts of the Madras Presidency has rendered a correspondingly large number of dialects more or less current in its bazars.

Civil administration.

329. Prior to 1864, it may be said that there was no special civil administration in Secunderabad. The local cesses were collected by the Commissariat. Civil and criminal justice was also dispensed by that department, under the supervision of the officer commanding the troops. The pettier cases were disposed of summarily; the graver ones referred, if of a criminal nature to courts-martial; if of a civil to a species of tribunal composed of military officers, and termed Native Courts of Request. This system might have served its purpose had the civil population of Secunderabad continued to consist merely of camp-followers properly so called, that is the small traders, artificers, and menials who are attached to regiments and batteries. But in truth there had sprung up under the shadow of the British flag what may almost be called a large native city, whose inhabitants, exclusive of the sutler classes just referred to, are estimated at 40,000. Among these are many merchants and bankers whose names are well known in the great money-markets of India, and whose transactions are often for large sums.* Fine houses have been built at different times by natives grown rich in connection with the Public Works Department or Commissariat, and also by persons from the city of Hyderabad. From the Custom-house returns, it appears that the imports during the past year, exclusive, of course, of military stores, represented the sum of rupees 41,59,440 (£415,944.) And it may be said generally that a very considerable degree of commercial activity and prosperity belongs to the native community of Secunderabad.

Establishment of Cantonment Magistrate's Court and Court of Small Causes.

It was, therefore, not without reason that the method of administering all its civil affairs through the agency of the Commissariat department appeared to one of the most eminent of my predecessors, Sir G. Yule, highly susceptible of improvement. This was effected by means of the appointment of a Cantonment Magistrate; and the institution of a Court of Small Causes, the jurisdiction of which was soon afterwards extended to the full pecuniary limit of one thousand rupees. The same officer presides over both these tribunals.

* The trading community is composed almost entirely of natives; including, of course, a large body of Parsees. European mercantile houses have at different times established agencies at Secunderabad; but these have not generally proved very successful; and the number of Europeans at present engaged in business in the cantonment is small.

Powers and Jurisdiction of Cantonment Magistrate and Judge of Small Cause Court.

330. The jurisdiction of these courts extends over an area of twenty square miles: of which about one square mile consists of populous bazars.

In addition to his magisterial functions, the Cantonment Magistrate exercises the enlarged criminal jurisdiction which is defined by Section 445-A. of Act VIII. of 1869; committing cases beyond his own competency to the First Assistant Resident, who holds *ex-officio* the place of Sessions Judge.

On the civil side, the Cantonment Magistrate possesses the enhanced original civil jurisdiction of a district court, that is, hears and determines all suits, irrespective of amount.

Appeals from his decisions and orders lie to the Resident.

Assistant Cantonment Magistrate.

331. There is also an Assistant Cantonment Magistrate and Assistant Judge of the Small Cause Court, to whom the powers vested in him by Act XXII. of 1861 pertain. This office has been efficiently filled by a native ever since its creation in 1867.

332. All judicial work connected with the civil population has thus been transferred from the shoulders of the Military officers on whom it pressed so unduly, to regular courts created for the purpose of disposing of it. The advantages of this reform are very apparent. Indeed, the tendency now is to refer even the misdemeanours of sepoys, when not of a military character, to the Cantonment Magistrate's court rather than to courts-martial.

Working of the Courts.

333. The working of the above courts during the past year may thus be summarized:—

In its extended civil jurisdiction, the Cantonment Magistrate's court entertained 78 suits during the year, involving a total value of rupees 1,23,354, (£12,335.) Fifty-four of these were decided during the year; and 24 cases were pending on 1st January last.

As Judge of the Small Cause Court, again, the same officer disposed of 278 cases; representing an aggregate value of rupees 45,313 (£4,531); 32 cases stood over at the close of the year. The average value per suit was rupees 162-15-11 (£16 6*s.*)

On the criminal side, 27 cases were disposed of under section 445-A. of the Criminal Procedure Code; convictions having resulted in 20 cases. Fifty-eight cases were tried by him as Magistrate during the year; 49 of which ended in conviction.

Only three cases came before the Cantonment Magistrate as Justice of the Peace.

The Assistant Cantonment Magistrate and Judge decided 1,138 civil cases during the year, with an aggregate value of rupees 12,834 (£1,283); and 212 cases remained on his file at the end of the year. In his criminal capacity, he disposed of 1,141 cases; involving 2,661 accused persons. Seven hundred and fifty-nine of these cases resulted in convictions; 224 in acquittals; and 158 in the case being withdrawn by complainant. Seventy-two persons were punished by him under the Whipping Act; against 104 the previous year. The Cantonment Magistrate is of opinion that there has been no trace in the proceedings of his native Assistant of that reluctance to pass sentences of flogging which has been alluded to by the Commissioner of East Berar* as characteristic, according to his experience, of native magistrates.

Police.

334. The cantonment police is composed entirely of natives, and bears an excellent character. It is worked by the Cantonment Magistrate in his capacity of district Superintendent, and subject to the general control and direction of the Major-General Commanding the cantonment. The strength of the Force is as follows:—

1	Inspector.
3	Deputy Inspectors.
10	Chief Constables.
20	Head Constables.
50	1st Class do.
150	2nd do. do.
Total...	234

Its annual cost is rupees 32,066 (£3,206,) inclusive of uniform, and compensation for dearness of food.

* *Vide ante* paragraph 85.

Detective ability of Police.

335. The subjoined table shows that the percentage of property recovered in cases of theft was good, considering the large extent of area, and the facilities afforded by the neighbouring city of Hyderabad for disposing of stolen property :—

No. of cases.	Value of Property.			Population exclusive of Military.	Area.	Proportion of Police to population.
	Stolen.	Recovered.	*Per cent.* recovered.			
	RS.	RS.	RS.			One to every
69	11,587	4,637	40	40,000	20 square miles	171

Jail and Prisoners.

336. There is a good cantonment jail capable of accommodating 90 male and 40 female prisoners. The number of prisoners is thus tabulated, *viz.* :—

Number at end of 1868.	Admitted during 1869.				Total.	Discharged during 1869.	Remaining on 1st January 1870.
	Simple Imprisonment.		Rigorous Imprisonment.				
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.			
84	55	10	197	32	378	291	87

The ratio of sickness and mortality in the jail throughout the year is given in the following table :—

Admitted to Hospital	71
Discharged	68
Died	1

All who are under sentence of rigorous imprisonment are employed extra-murally on local public works. Their cost per head during the year was Government rupees 37-6-0 (£3 14*s.* 9*d.*); as an offset against which is the value of their labour.

Debtors.

337. 19 persons were imprisoned for debt during the year.

Finance.

338. The expense of the administration of the Secunderabad cantonment is defrayed from its local funds, which are collected by the Cantonment Magistrate.

The revenue derived from the sale of the monopoly in native liquor alone during the past year reached the large sum of rupees 1,38,800 (£13,880); or rupees 11,566 (£1,156) *per mensem*. This subject has recently attracted my special enquiry.

The total amount realized from all sources in Secunderabad may thus be stated:—

	Govt. Rupees.		£
Tax on houses (including arrears of 1868) ...	17,511	=	1,751
Excise *	1,38,800	=	13,880
Receipts on account of Judicial proceedings ...	19,937	=	1,993
Petty Cesses	4,460	=	446
Total...	1,80,708	=	18,071

The gross expenditure, again, during the year was as follows:—

	Govt. Rupees.		£
Conservancy of Bazars, and repair of roads ...	18,134	=	1,813
Local improvements	17,670	=	1,767
Law and Justice; inclusive of Police ...	58,739	=	5,873
Miscellaneous charges	7,860	=	786
Total...	1,02,403	=	10,240

Control of Expenditure.

339. The expenditure is under the control of a Cantonment Committee, of which the Major-General Commanding is President, and the Cantonment Magistrate honorary Secretary. The Resident's sanction is required for all works involving an outlay beyond that sanctioned in the Budget.

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* The customs or octroi duties of Secunderabad are levied by His Highness the Nizam's own establishments; and pass directly into the native Treasury. Under treaty stipulations, nothing which is brought into cantonment directly for the use of the European soldiers and officials is subject to the local duty.

very high. It consists of four batteries of six-pounder guns, with three 6-pounder howitzers and one 12-pounder howitzer attached; four regiments of cavalry; and six of infantry; all composed of natives. The artillery and infantry portions contain a large proportion of *Pardesees*, as men from Bengal and the upper parts of India are called in the Dakhan. Nevertheless these showed little sympathy with their fellows during the mutinies of 1857; but took the field cheerfully against them; and in truth rendered good service as often as they had an opportunity of doing so.

The batteries of artillery are all horsed, and are ready to take the field at any time.

The infantry is still armed chiefly with the old-fashioned musket, which is, however, in process of being exchanged for the Victoria musket. The physique of the men is decidedly good.

The cavalry branch contains to this day a large remnant of those high-spirited and well-born Indian horsemen to whose prowess Irregular Cavalry owes its fame, but to whose peculiar idiosyncracies it requires much tact and temper to adapt the principles of British military discipline. Many of the soldiers of this class who are now in the cavalry became connected with it while it formed part of the Nizam's army proper. And the fact of so many of these being still borne on our rolls is due to the circumstance that not only my own predecessors, but also successive Brigadiers and regimental commanders have been able to form a just appreciation of the real character of the Force, and to avoid the mistake of hazarding the destruction of its own special excellences in the attempt to endow it with other qualifications which hardly belong either to its constitution, or to the objects which it is intended to serve.

The troopers are well mounted, principally on Arabs and Persians purchased in the Bombay stables; and were able to sustain to the full during the campaigns of 1857-59 the old reputation of the Nizam's cavalry for making forced marches in circumstances of difficulty. In former days, some of the native officers owned as their private property *pagahs* (troops) of more than fifty horses in the regiments to which they belonged. Even now, *Silahdars* possessed of from five to fifteen horses, which are, of course, ridden by their *bargeers*, are pretty numerous throughout the four regiments. But the number of these large *pagahs* is now gradually diminishing; although the character of the cavalry in this respect is still far removed from that

belonging to the *khood-asp* system, as it is called, under which every man rides his own horse. None of the horses belong to Government. The pay of every *Silahdar*, for himself and his horse, is rupees 30 (£3) a month; out of which he has to provide his own uniform, arms, and all other articles of equipment, with the exception of ammunition, paying rupees 10 (£1) *per mensem*, to his *bargeer*, or substitute, on account of every horse he may possess over and above the one ridden by himself. An excellent regulation of comparatively recent date prohibits all who are not actually in the service from acquiring horses in any of the regiments. In former days, many of the horses were the declared property of native ladies, and even of bankers. Some few years ago, the attention of the Resident of the time was attracted by the heavy debts with *Sahookars* which all the native ranks had become involved in, chiefly through the ambition of men not really possessed of means to convert themselves from *bargeers* into *Silahdars* by purchasing horses, and partly from other causes. Strenuous measures were adopted to remedy so mischievous a state of things; and complete success was happily attained; partly through the liberality of Government in granting compensation to the men when provisions are unusually dear. It has also been thought right to interdict the paying of a higher price than about £35 for each remount.

Location of Contingent.

346. The present distribution of the Force is given in the following table:—

Bolarum; near Hyderabad.		Aurungabad; (Brigade Head-Quarters)		Ellichpur.		Jaulnah.		Hingolee.		Mominabad.		Lingsagoor.		Total.
	Strength		Strength		Strength		Strength		Strength		Strength.		Strength.	
Arty..	130	Arty..	129	Arty ..	124	Arty...	...	Arty...	129	Arty...	...	Arty..	...	512
Cavy...	493	Cavy..	536	Cavy...	84	Cavy..	42	Cavy..	491	Cavy...	578	Cavy..	85	2,309
Infy...	918	Infy..	919	Infy..	919	Infy...	901	Infy...	885	Infy...	..	Infy...	832	5,374
Total..	1,541		1,584		1,127		943		1,505		578		917	
												Grand Total...		8,195

Its utility politically.

347. The advantages of so many spots throughout His Highness' territory being thus occupied by troops under the command of British officers have already been referred to. The Commandant of each station, though not formally vested with political functions, yet acts more or less

as a representative of our Government in the district where he is quartered. Thus any mustering of armed bodies would come to his knowledge as a matter of course; and would be reported at once, through the Military Secretary, for the Resident's information. Indeed, officers commanding posts possess, with certain necessary reservations, the power to move out at their own discretion with the troops under their command for the suppression of disturbances, when required to do so by the local authorities. Similarly, instances of gross oppression in the interior of the country, supposing such were to happen, as also grave or unusual crimes, would have a fair chance of reaching the ears of the Commandant of the nearest station. And, on the whole, such stations may be said to fulfil several ends in addition to those belonging to them as military posts.

Civil Administration in its Cantonments.

318. For the conduct of the limited civil duties connected with these cantonments, one of the officers of the garrison is appointed Superintendent of Police; in which capacity, and under the supervision of the officer commanding, he collects the local taxes, maintains conservancy, and disposes of the simpler civil and criminal cases which occur. Important suits would be referred to the nearest civil court of His Highness' government. Serious offences, again, are sometimes tried by court-martial, and sometimes committed to the courts of the district.

Thus, for example, in the cantonment of Bolarum, the *quasi* civil population of which is stated at 3,774, sixty-four civil, and one hundred and forty-five criminal cases were disposed of during last year by the Superintendent of Police: the former involving an aggregate value of rupees 4,191 (£419); and the latter ending in 121 convictions, with a total of 16 months' rigorous imprisonment, awarded to, in all, 17 persons; of fines, rupees 341 (£34) among 164 persons; and of corporal punishment 124 stripes among 4. The local fund collections during the same period were as follows:—

	Rupees.
Excise	14,301
Petty taxes	1,717
Judicial receipts	479
Total...	16,497

Of the above sum, rupees 16,078 (£1,607) were expended in establishments, and in road-making, sanitation, and works of public uti-

lity. The local fund balances belong, of course to His Highness' government, and not to our's.

Education.

349. Every station has its school, where instruction is offered to all comers. The following table shows the number of children attending these schools during the year, exclusive of regimental ones:—

Stations.	No. of pupils.	No. learning English.
Bolarum	62	62
Aurungabad	58	30
Ellichpur	86	64
Jaulnah	80	45
Hingolee	24	24
Mominabad ... } Lingsagoor ... }	*Closed for want of teachers.*	

350. The Brigadier-General Commanding the Contingent inspects all its stations once in every year. The Resident does the same at longer intervals, and as he can find the opportunity. Government chaplains visit them from time to time. At Bolarum, Aurungabad, Ellichpur, and Jaulnah, suitable Christian churches have been erected.

351. On the whole, I trust, that the Hyderabad Contingent has not deteriorated from its well-known state of high efficiency during the year under review; while the arrangements which I found existing for the conduct of affairs throughout its stations are, in my opinion, of a most suitable and satisfactory description. The garrison of Bolarum was inspected on parade by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army on his visit to Secunderabad during the past year; and a highly complimentary Order issued by His Excellency on that occasion records the favourable impression produced on his mind by what he witnessed.

PART C.

PUBLIC WORKS.

CHAPTER I.

IMPERIAL.

By far the larger portion of the Public Works Department under the Resident's administration is that which is maintained from the revenues of the Assigned Districts, and is restricted, of course, as regards its field of operations, to Berar itself, and the stations of the Hyderabad Contingent. But there are many public works devolving on the provincial administration which have to be undertaken from imperial resources, and on which it would be impossible to employ either the revenue or establishments proper to Berar.

The principal works of this latter description relate to the accommodation of the subsidiary force, which is concentrated, as has been seen, at Trimulgherry and Secunderabad. For the carrying out of these and all other works belonging to the same category there exists what may be regarded as the imperial division proper of the de-

partment. This is under the control of the same departmental head as the Berar divisions; namely the Superintending Engineer who presides over the whole department of Public Works connected with this administration, and holds at the same time the office of Secretary to the Resident in the Public Works Department. His headquarters are necessarily at Hyderabad, not merely because of his Secretariat duties, but owing to the importance of the great imperial works that are in progress round about Secunderabad. He is able, however, to visit the Assigned Districts at least once in every year, or oftener should special occasion arise.

Staff of Secunderabad Division.

352. The Imperial, or, as it is officially designated, the Secunderabad, Division consists of 1 Executive Engineer; 2 Assistant Engineers; 4 Overseers; and 1 Accountant.

Expenditure.

353. The expenditure incurred during the year in connection with this division is detailed in a separate statement appended to this chapter. Meanwhile it may be summarized as follows :—

	Original Works		Repairs.		Total.
	Rupees.		Rupees.		Rupees.
Military	3,60,089	...	49,122	...	4,09,211
Civil Buildings	21,258	...	6,290	...	27,548
Communications	1,114	...	15,787	...	16,901
					4,53,660
Establishment	.....	...	.....	...	74,432
Tools and Plant	.....	...	.....	...	13,733
Profit and Loss	.....	...	.....	...	28
			Total	...	5,41,853
					£ 54,185

SECTION I.—MILITARY WORKS.

Fortifications.

354. Among the numerous works of a military description which were carried out during the year, the first place must be assigned to the entrenched post at Trimulgherry, a passing allusion to which was made in the chapter on the subsidiary Force. On this work, and the various buildings connected with it, about one lakh of rupees (£10,000) was expended during the year. The *enceinte* comprehends an area of in round numbers 5,00,000 square yards; and contains all the barracks and principal buildings of one of the two regiments of European infantry; affording accommodation, if need were, to not less than 4,000 people. It is surrounded with ditch and earthern parapets, flanked by five batteries; and is amply fitted to resist any attack that it is ever likely to be exposed to. Of the five batteries provided by the plan, four are finished, with the exception of the gorge mantlets; while of the whole extent of the ditch there remains only one-ninth part to be excavated, and one-fifth part of the revetment wall to be built. An arsenal, two magazines, commissariat store-houses, a bakery, and a good supply of water—independently of the external works now in progress for laying on water throughout the whole of the Trimulgherry barracks—will all be provided within the position itself. Considerable progress was made during the year with the erection of the arsenal buildings. The two large gun-sheds were raised to full height; a store-room and office half-completed; and artificers' workshop completed. One of the magazines, capable of holding 2,000 barrels, or 1,80,000 lbs. of gunpowder, was completed with the exception of a few details. The commissariat store-houses were commenced during the year, and advanced to about two-fifths of completion. A bakery which is being erected in connection with these buildings was delayed, because the machinery which was ordered out from England for it proved different from that designed by the Superintending Engineer; so that an entire change in the plan of the building was necessitated. Two wells which were in progress were sunk to a depth of about 50 feet. A greater thickness of rock had to be blasted through than had been calculated on; which not only retarded the progress of the work, but entailed extra expenditure. The supply of water promises to be abundant. A cistern for collecting rain-water from the roof of one of the barracks was also nearly completed. This work promises to be most successful. The cistern will hold about 120,000 gallons

of water. The water is passed through fine zinc screens before being admitted into the cistern; and, after settling, is pumped up, and drawn through a filter containing layers of gravel, sand, and charcoal.

Artillery.

355. One of the new blocks of barrack for the heavy field battery of artillery at Trimulgherry was finished, with the exception of a portion of the roof, and a few details. This building is being constructed of granite; and will have a handsome appearance. Double and single-storeyed quarters for officers; also stables for three batteries; and sick stables, were completed and occupied during the year.

Cavalry.

356. Two blocks of the new cavalry barracks at Trimulgherry, the erection of which has been sanctioned, were commenced; but for want of funds not much progress was made with this work. These barracks are being built of granite, with iron floors and roofs, and will, it is hoped, be at once handsome and substantial.

Infantry.

357. Serjeant Majors' quarters of neat design in granite were constructed for the second of the two regiments of European infantry.

Rest-houses in Berar.

358. Even in Berar, as has already been incidentally noted, when any public work has to be constructed which is distinct in its object from the ends of the province itself or its administration, such work is dealt with as an imperial undertaking and item of account. Of this nature clearly were certain rest-houses for the use of European soldiers in transit through the province which were erected during the year at Akolah. The total cost of these buildings is estimated at rupees 2,73,204 (£27,320.) The rest-houses were completed, and made over for use, during the year; but, owing to a dispute with the contractor, the accounts were not finally closed. Accommodation has been provided for 176 men and 20 families; besides rooms for the officers; and the superintendent's quarters.

SECTION II.—CIVIL BUILDINGS.

Improvements to British Residency.

359. Under this head, no buildings of importance were constructed during the past year. The absence of sufficient accommodation for carriages at the Residency was supplied by the erection of a new coach-house, at a cost of rupees 4,618 (£462.) This want has been much felt ever since the original coach-houses attached to the Residency were converted, with other buildings, into barracks for the Resident's escort, four years ago.

The floor of the main hall in the Residency itself was renewed; and a boarded teak floor, with handsome *parquetre* border, was substituted for the chunam floor. This has rendered the hall much more suited for the purpose for which it is required.

The First Assistant Resident's house has also been considerably improved by the addition of a verandah on two sides of it.

A new record-room was added to the Residency office.

STATEMENT

Showing details of expenditure on Imperial Public Works, incurred in the Hyderabad Department Public Works, during 1869-70 :—

DETAILS.	Total of each Station.			Total of each Class.		
	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.
ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Military.						
Buildings for the accommodation of European Troops at Trimulgherry..	1,81,283	11,438	1,92,721			
Akolah...	44,758	...	44,758			
Secunderabad	...	4,520	4,520	2,26,041	15,958	2,41,999
Ordnance and Commissariat buildings.	...	...	...	34,634	...	34,634
Works of fortifications	...	...	...	55,847	...	55,847
General Cantonment works and roads..	...	...	...	17,160	10,158	27,318
Minor works	...	...	...	26,407	23,006	49,413
Total Military...	...	...	...	3,60,089	49,122	4,09,211
Civil Buildings.						
Ecclesiastical	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Public Buildings	...	...	...	21,258	6,290	27,548
Total Civil Buildings...	...	...	...	21,258	6,290	27,548
Communications.						
Road from Aurungabad to Jaulnah...	...	8,022	8,022			
Road from „ to Tokah ...	...	5,164	5,164			
Road from Jaulnah to Savergaon ...	...	1,866	1,866	...	15,052	15,052
Minor works	...	...	...	1,114	735	1,849
Total Communications...	...	...	...	1,114	15,787	16,901
Total Works...	...	...	...	3,82,461	71,199	4,53,660

DETAILS.	Total of each Station.			Total of each Class.		
	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment	...	...	...	...	...	74,432
Tools and Plant	...	...	...	...	...	13,733
Profit and Loss	...	...	...	...	...	28
Total Ordinary Expenditure...	...	...	...	...	...	5,41,853
Extraordinary Expenditure.						
Hyderabad State Railway Survey ...	...	...	...	...	...	27,237
Total Extraordinary Expenditure...	...	...	...	...	...	27,237
Grand Total Ordinary and Extraordinary expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	5,69,090 £56,909

Note.—The decrease of stock balances during the year amounts to Rupees 24,754, so that the net expenditure debitable against the Public Works Budget is 5,41,853—24,754 = 5,17,099.

The Railway expenditure remains the same.

STATEMENT

Showing the income and expenditure on re-productive works in the Hyderabad Province, for the year 1869-70 :—

NAME of WORK.	Total outlay on construction to end of 1868-69.	Total income realized during 1869-70.	Deduct Charges of 1869-70.			Net surplus or deficit.
			Cost of maintenance including Establishment	Interest on capital at 5 per cent.	Total charges.	
Hyderabad State Railway	...	...	...	...	...	...

Note.—Expenditure on construction during 1869-70, Rupees 27,237.

CHAPTER II.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NIZAM'S STATE RAILWAY.

Arrangements for construction.

Without dwelling in this place on the conditions under which this highly important Public Work has been undertaken, it is sufficient to record, in explanation of its being introduced in this portion of the report at all, that the construction of the Railway has been, as a matter of convenience and economy, entrusted to the British Government; and is being carried out by a small Staff of carefully selected engineers, under the immediate orders of the Resident, and in communication, on all points of importance, with His Highness the Nizam's government.

The Branch which is to supply the long-felt necessities of Hyderabad in respect of railway communication received the approval of the Government of India in October of last year. It will leave the Great Indian Peninsular Line at a point called Waddy about 121 miles distant from Hyderabad; and find its terminus at some as yet undetermined site within easy access of the capital city.

Major Mead, B. S. C., an officer of tried engineering ability, having been appointed by the Government of India to the office of Superintending Engineer in charge of the construction of the line, arrangements were promptly made for organizing the necessary Staff. By the month of February, all the requisite instruments had been procured; and the actual survey operations were then commenced.

First Survey.

360. During the previous October and November, Major Mead, assisted by Mr. Reynolds, had been able to make a *reconnaisance* of the country lying round Secunderabad, as also of that between Hyderabad and Kulbargah. Observations with the aneroid barometer had been taken

over an extent of about 300 miles; and a sufficient general knowledge of the features of the country had been obtained to enable a route to be selected for a trial line.

Progress of Work.

361. The work done up to 31st March, as summarized by the Superintending Engineer, was as follows:—

Line ranged; ...	...	...	...	72½ miles.
— levelled; ...	...	...	...	72½ miles.
— surveyed; ..	...	...	...	72½ miles.

The total amount in length of lines actually measured and levelled over in the centre lines and cross sections was 280 miles; and an additional length of 27 miles of close and minute route surveys, not included in the above, was executed in ascertaining the best route to be followed where the line traverses the valuable tracts of household property lying round Hyderabad.

Disbursements up to date.

362. The aggregate expenditure which had been incurred up to the close of the official year amounted to rupees 27,237 (£2,724.) The various heads of disbursement were as follows:—

				RS.	A.	P.
Preliminary expenses	...	...	...	456	4	11
Plant	...	...	...	2,181	8	11
Establishment ...	...	...	...	18,560	5	6
Contingencies ...	...	...	...	1,036	13	4
Suspense:—						
Miscellaneous Advances	...	...	...	5,001	10	5
		Total	...	27,236	11	1

PART D.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHAPTER I.

THE RESIDENCY BAZARS.

Extent.

363. His Highness the Nizam's government has accorded to the Resident almost unreserved jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters throughout a certain space surrounding the Residency. The area in question, though not much exceeding half a square mile in extent, is covered with populous bazars, some of whose merchants possess great wealth, and extend their transactions all over India. The number of houses contained in the bazars is 2,808; and the population is estimated at 12,442. Many of the servants of His Highness' government have taken up their abode within the Residency jurisdiction, preferring probably our sanitary and police arrangements to their own.

Administrative Staff.

364. The Second Assistant Resident holds also the office of Superintendent of the Residency bazars; and performs in this capacity duties much resembling those of a Cantonment Magistrate and Judge in our own territory. He has the assistance of a municipal committee, composed of representative members of the chief branches of the local community. The officer commanding the Resident's Escort receives a small special allowance as secretary to this committee; and relieves the

Superintendent of much of the work of public improvement and sanitation.

Finance.

365. The receipts of the bazars during the past year were as follows:—

	Rs.		£
1. Excise	4,199	=	420
2. Tax on gold and silver	2,365	=	236
3. Conservancy tax	9,148	=	915
4. Receipts from judicial proceedings	7,419	=	742
5. Miscellaneous bazar taxes	14,327	=	1,433
6. Special contribution from His Highness the Nizam's Government towards construction of a cholera hospital	1,950	=	195
Total...	39,408	=	3,941

The expenditure, again, may be thus stated:—

	Rs.		£
1. Law and justice	12,025	=	1,202
2. Local improvements and conservancy ...	16,226	=	1,623
3. Grant to Anglo-vernacular school	513	=	51
4. Contribution to local dispensary	1,445	=	145
5. Pensioners	2,146	=	215
Balance in hand ...	7,053	=	705
Total...	39,408	=	3,941

Local improvements and Conservancy.

366. The chief new work completed during the year was a cholera hospital, in which all the appointed precautions for the prevention of the spread of cholera admit of being carried out. Happily no case of this disease has occurred in the bazars since the hospital was erected; indeed none has been heard of here since September of last year. Several public latrines were also provided. The traffic in the bazars is very great; and causes the item of repair of roads to show largely in the local budgets.

The condition of the bazars in regard to conservancy is, all things considered, highly satisfactory; and their broad streets, imposing houses, and shady avenues of trees tell of the care which has been expended upon them by my predecessors, as well as by successive superintendents.

Education.

367. There are two excellent schools connected with the bazars, besides others of less note. One of these is of a denominational (Protestant) character; and affords a very superior education, chiefly to Eurasians. The number of pupils attending it last year was 86: the whole of whom were learning English; ten Mathematics; and nine Latin. The other is an anglo-vernacular school, which is intended more especially for natives, and is under the care of a committee of which the Second Assistant Resident is president. 122 pupils received instruction in this school during the session. It owed its establishment to Sir G. Yule, whose views in connection with it were successfully carried out by Major Fraser, at that time Second Assistant to the Resident.

Justice.

368. The inhabitants of the Residency bazars are, as a rule, remarkably orderly and well disposed. They have not yet acquired that thirst for litigation which is seen in some other places, for example in Secunderabad. One reason of this is that professional pleaders have not been encouraged to locate themselves among them.

The total number of suits instituted in the Superintendent's court during the last year was 128, against 146 the previous year; showing an aggregate value of property or rights involved amounting to rupees 2,96,471-9-9 (£29,647.) This large amount is quite abnormal; and is explained by the fact that, in one suit alone, the sum under litigation was rupees 2,26,469-8-0 (£22,647.) The average duration of each suit was sixteen days; and twelve cases remained pending at the end of the year. The Superintendent has the powers of a district judge. Appeals from his decisions are heard by the Resident. In criminal matters, he represents the magistrate of a district. 53 bailable and 46 non-bailable offences were tried by him during the year. Of the 133 persons who were brought before him in these 99 cases, 94 were convicted; 4 committed to the Sessions Court of the First Assistant Resident; and five acquitted after trial. The rest were discharged.

Fifty-five persons were fined; seven flogged; and the remainder imprisoned.

These figures fully bear out the favourable description of the people of the bazars which has been recorded above.

CHAPTER II.

JUDICIAL SUPT. OF RAILWAYS.

369. When works were commenced some five or six years ago for the purpose of connecting the Great Indian Peninsular Railway with the Southern or Madras Line, a British officer was appointed on the part of His Highness' government to act as Judicial Superintendent of Railways within the Hyderabad territory. Questions connected with the necessary grants of land were constantly occurring, and required some such officer to settle them satisfactorily. The ordinary police and judicial arrangements of the country were also inadequate to keep the crowding *employés* of the new railway in order.

370. The Great Indian Peninsular Railway, entering the Nizam's dominions from the north-west at a point 43 miles from Sholapur, and 27 from Kulbargah, traverses the country in a south-easterly direction, until, after crossing the river Kishna, it effects a junction with the Madras Line at Raeechur, distant 88 miles from Kulbargah.

Much of the above line is as yet only under construction. The rails have, however, now been laid to a distance of 43 miles beyond Kulbargah in the direction of Raeechur; and it is expected that, with the exception of the great viaduct over the Kishna, the line will be completed up to the latter point by the end of this year.

371. The jurisdiction of the Judicial Superintendent of Railways in His Highness' dominions at present extends over 27 miles of finished, and 106 miles of unfinished line. His salary forms a charge against the local funds of the Secunderabad cantonment. His head-

quarters are at Kulbargah,* a place of little note in modern times, but known both to Hindoo and Muhammadan history. To this day, it is held in veneration by Muhammadans, owing to certain religious associations which are connected with it.

Character of jurisdiction.

372. The Judicial Superintendent exercises civil and criminal jurisdiction over all persons connected with the railway between Sholapur and Raeechur, and is vested with full powers in civil matters: and with those of a district magistrate in criminal cases. He is directly under the orders of the Resident, to whom all appeals from his orders lie. During the past year, he had only nineteen criminal, and twenty-two civil, cases to dispose of. The more important part of his work, indeed, consists in preventing disturbances and disputes, by means of his personal influence over those within his jurisdiction, rather than in adjudicating upon such after they have occurred. In this aim he has been successful. Of the offences brought before him during the year, one was a case of culpable homicide by a European;† one of forgery; one of criminal breach of trust; seven of theft; and nine of petty assault. These results are creditable at once to the Judicial Superintendent himself; to the railway company and their servants; and to the people of the adjoining districts. In illustration of the character of these people, the fact may be noted that from sixty-thousand to eighty-thousand rupees (£8,000) a month were sent in safety during the year down the line between Kulbargah and Raeechur, for the payment of work-people and other purposes, without any guard being found necessary for its protection. This speaks for itself; and shows that at least in that portion of the Hyderabad territory a very remarkable degree of security of life and property has been attained.

Introduction of Stamp Paper.

373. The litigation registered last year in the Judicial Superintendent's court shows a great decrease compared with that of the previous year. This he attributes to the introduction of stamped paper during the year; and he observes, doubtless with truth, in his annual report that parties now prefer settling their claims amicably to paying heavy initial stamp duties.

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* Signifying a place of stones.

† Dealt with by him in his capacity of Justice of the Peace, and committed to the High Court of Bombay.

Appointment of native Joint Superintendent.

374. The most important point gained during the year in connection with this jurisdiction was the association with the Judicial Superintendent of a native officer of His Highness' own government, holding the powers of a Talukdar or District Magistrate, for the purpose of co-operating with him generally; and more particularly in carrying out the requirements of justice within those private and personal jageers in which difficulty is sometimes experienced in this matter. It is obviously advantageous to administer the law, where His Highness' subjects are concerned, as far as possible through the duly constituted native officials of the country themselves. And the measure which has been introduced experimentally with this end in view bids fair to prove a decided success.

Police.

375. A railway police of the following strength is under the orders of the Judicial Superintendent:—

Petty Officers.		Constables.		Total.	
Number.	Cost per annum.	Number.	Cost per annum.	Total strength.	Total cost per annum.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
5	4,092	20	2,160	25	6,252

Half the cost of the above is defrayed by His Highness' government, half by the railway company. Their numbers will be added to from time to time as the railway works progress. During the past year they have been clothed and armed on a uniform system. The regular police of the Nizam's country of course co-operates with them, under the orders of the native joint Superintendent.

Kulbargah.

376. Something has been done during the year for the sanitation and improvement of the town of Kulbargah, the population of which is about 16,000. A European subordinate of His Highness' public works department has been appointed to supervise this work; and a small annual grant has been sanctioned on the same account. Old and ruinous houses are being levelled, and new roads made through the town. One of the

points noticed by Sir Salar Jung on his recent tour was that railways must lead to increased sanitary energy on the part of the authorities, in order to prevent them from promoting the spread of contagious disease.

377. Although the Judicial Superintendent confines himself strictly to the discharge of his own proper functions, yet, situated as he is, he is brought into daily contact with all branches of the native administration in the interior of the country; and it is pleasing to record that the glimpses which are afforded to me in this manner of the working of His Highness' administrative system are, on the whole, and in spite of certain drawbacks and defects, of a highly satisfactory complexion.

DIVISION SECOND.

POLITICAL.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

Extent; population; and general features, of territory administered by native government.

378. Apart from the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, there remains of the Nizam's country an area of about 80,000 square miles which is under the sole management of His Highness' government. No census has ever been taken of the population of this extensive tract: but it is generally computed at ten millions. It lies between Berar on the north, and the Madras Presidency on the south; and is bounded on the west by that portion of the Bombay Presidency which is known as the Bombay Dakhan, or the Marhattah country proper, and on the east by the Central Provinces and the Coast districts of the Madras Presidency.

The topographical features of the territory thus enclosed and bounded having been described by my predecessor, Sir Richard Temple, in Chapter I. of a confidential Report on the administration of the Nizam's country, which was submitted by him to the Government of India when Resident at Hyderabad, I content myself with referring to that Report.

The general distribution of the river-system which divides the country into several great strips, each strip having its own distinctive features, is shown in the accompanying sketch-map. The principal towns and fortresses will there be seen noted; as also the more marked geological formations; the corresponding diversities of soil and crop; and the three great linguistic divisions into which the whole country separates itself.

Character and disposition of the people.

379. As regards the mass of the Nizam's subjects, it may be said that they take little interest in political changes: but go about their avocations with that disposition to obey quietly the ruler of the day which belongs to most agricultural communities.

The rural chiefs who are distributed throughout the interior of the country, and, under the names of Deshmukhs, Despandiahs, Zameendars and Mannéwárs, are associated in divers forms and degrees with the revenue and police administration of their native districts, were often found, in former days, engaged in hostilities among themselves, or combined together to resist the exactions of the native government. Even now they naturally possess a certain amount of influence over the inhabitants of their respective localities. Many of them, moreover, are masters of fortified places, with or without guns, and garrisoned by their retainers. Recent measures of revenue reform, as well as the comparatively settled condition of the country generally, have, however, reduced to the minimum the risk of these chiefs ever again uniting to disturb the public tranquillity.

No account of the people of His Highness' territory would be complete which did not contain some allusion to the foreign mercenaries, consisting principally of Arabs and Rohillahs, who seem fairly to have domiciled themselves in the country.

The Rohillahs come from the countries beyond the Indus; and according to the most recent computation of their number, namely that just received from Sir Salar Jung, muster, in the whole of the Hyderabad territory, not less than three thousand fighting men. As a body, they bear an evil name; and play a conspicuous part in the disturbances which still sometimes occur in the Nizam's country. They are, however, mere military adventurers of the swash-buckler order; and possess no wealth, and no stake in the country. In personal prowess they are superior to the indigenous races. This, with their natural aptitude for coming to blows, has led to their entertainment not only by the native government, but to some extent also by private individuals. They are placed as guards in almost every fort; and enjoy, on the whole, a prestige which they occasionally take advantage of for the purpose of indulging in violence, and robbery on their own account. They must undoubtedly be regarded as hostile to the interests of order and established government.

It is difficult to say exactly how many Arabs there may be in the Hyderabad territory. The Commission which assembled at the Residency under instructions conveyed in the Financial Resolution of the Government of India, No. 6,737, of the 8th of June 1861, took occasion to allude to this subject: and, in paragraph 89 of their Report, I find it stated that "the Arabs may number from 20,000 to 25,000 men, of whom "about one-third are Arabs born in Arabia, and the remainder Arabs "born in India." The Resident at the period when the above Commission met was the late Colonel Davidson, C. B.; and, as he himself was a member of it, the computation just quoted may be regarded as resting on his undoubtedly high authority. In the same Report, it should be mentioned, the number of Rohillahs was stated at 8,000, and not, as above, at 3,000. On the other hand, Sir Salar Jung now assures me that, including the *muwallads*, as they are called, that is those of Indian parentage on the mother's side, the whole number of Arabs in the service of the native government, or of private persons, and of those who are not in any one's pay at all, does not exceed 8,000 men.* Perhaps, however, the question of their number is of less moment than are certain other considerations which are connected with them. The remarks made regarding them in the report of the Commission above referred to need not here be repeated. To a great extent, the same remarks hold good to this day, as was evidenced by an incident of comparatively recent occurrence; namely, when the city-gate facing the Residency was closed and taken possession of by the Arabs within an hour or two after the late Nizam's death. As soon as these were satisfied that our intentions were friendly they dispersed. There is no doubt that the wealth which the Arabs, as a class, possess is an excellent guarantee for their good behaviour in all ordinary circumstances. It was probably this that held them bound to the side of order during the excitement of 1857-59; and it was remarked on the occasion when the Residency was attacked by an armed mob from the city bazars soon after the outbreak of the mutinies that the assailants did not consist of Arabs. Of late years, the chief trouble caused by the Arabs has sprung from their aversion to refer their disputes to the regular courts of justice; and their disposition to resort, if need be, to an armed settlement of their differences rather than that. Practically they seem to claim an exemption, which, of

*Thus, the Resident in 1851 (Major-General Fraser,) in his despatch to the Government of India, No. 146, dated 16th July, reports as follows: "Upon this I reminded His Highness "that there were seven or eight thousand Arabs in his dominions; two or three thousand Ro- "hillahs; and two or three thousand Sikhs; at present cantoned near the City of Hyderabad."

course, cannot for a moment be allowed to them, not only from the civil but even from the criminal courts; and this is sometimes the fruitful source of evil here. On the whole, however, they are in better order now than they once were. A pass is required at Bombay to enable fresh arrivals from Arabia to proceed in this direction. These passes are procured through the Resident by the Nizam's Minister; and the principle generally followed is to refuse passes to all who have come from Arabia for the first time, and are not merely returning to join their families or masters at Hyderabad.

City of Hyderabad.

380. The capital of the Nizam's country, stands on the southern or right bank of the river Moosee, which flows between it and the Residency, being fordable, however, except when swollen by the rains. As the crow flies, it is less than a mile distant from the Residency; and five miles, by the road, from the cantonment of Secunderabad. Its population, including that of its rich and populous environs, but exclusive of the Residency Bazars, is estimated by Sir Salar Jung at 4,00,000. Of these, two-thirds may reside inside, and the remainder outside the walls. The approaches are by three noble bridges over the Moosee from the north; and by, in all, twelve gates, besides numerous posterns. The wall which surrounds the city, though built of stone, is weak and ruinous. The ground-plan enclosed by it is a trapezoid, the longest or north-western side of which, extending along the right bank of the Moosee, is nearly three miles in length; the south-eastern, two miles; the southern, one mile; the south-western, one and three-quarters. The city streets are too narrow to admit of much wheeled traffic. Their drainage, and sanitation generally, are still defective; although the well-considered measures instituted of late by Sir Salar Jung and a recently created Municipal Committee have already wrought a great improvement in their condition. Elephants, palanquins, and horses are the common means of transit; and no person of consideration will be seen on foot, if he can help it. Only a certain portion of the area enclosed within the walls is inhabited. The remaining space consists of gardens, or orchards, surrounding tombs and mosques; and of ruined habitations. Some of the mosques are fine specimens of Asiatic architecture, more especially the great one called the Mecca Masjid, in the enclosure of which the Nizams are interred. The Nizam's palaces, though elegantly furnished and spacious inside, have little to distinguish them externally from the surrounding bazars. The same remark applies to the residences

of the Minister and of most of the Ameers. The dwellings of the higher classes are furnished partly in European, and partly in native fashion. Indeed if a taste for English furniture and pictures can be taken as a measure of civilization, then the advance made by the people of Hyderabad during the present century must be stated as immense. Thus, when the Minister of the day seventy years ago, visited the Governor General at Calcutta, and was placed by his Lordship on a couch, he had no other way of describing his seat, in writing to his friends in the Dakhan, than by calling it a "chair of extraordinary dimensions." And, similarly, when a watch was offered to him, he declined the gift, on the ground that it was useless receiving an article with the nature of which he was not acquainted. Now, however, English or French couches and ottomans are in common use in the houses of the natives. Messrs. Deschamps and Co., the well-known cabinet-makers of Madras, have many customers in Hyderabad; and their furniture, when it occurs in the Secunderabad auctions, generally finds its way into the city, at prices sometimes in excess of its value when new. English carriages are not less highly prized; while clocks, and scientific apparatus of different kinds, from the galvanic battery downward, are collected in large numbers in the rooms of some of the Ameers. One Ameer has even learned to appreciate gas-light; and has erected a gasometer in his garden.

Political features of the country in the present day.

381. But the gradual change which has come over Hyderabad during the present century has extended to more important matters than the above. Indeed it is hardly too much to say that the Hyderabad with which I first became acquainted in 1860 was to the Hyderabad which was described in, for example, the despatches of my predecessor of 1820—Sir Charles, afterwards Lord, Metcalfe—as the England of the present day is to the England of the Stuarts; a result essentially due, as Government is aware, to the beneficent administration and sound financial policy of the present Minister, Sir Salar Jung, and to the support afforded to him by my predecessors in office.

Not only was the public treasury full, but the annual income of the State exceeded the annual expenditure by about eight lakhs of rupees (£80,000); while the credit of the Government stood proportionately high. Owing chiefly to the abolition of the baneful system of former times, by which the collection of the revenue was

farmed out to contractors, disturbances in the interior of the country had become rare.

The Hyderabad Contingent had not fired a shot, except on its own parade grounds, since the suppression of the Mutinies; although detachments of its regiments had once or twice during that time been required to march towards spots where it seemed likely there would be work for them. Thus, if it could be said that the evil-disposed were, all that time, only watching their opportunity, it was equally true that the chances of their finding such opportunity grew smaller and smaller every year.

The Police had been put on a satisfactory footing; and life and property were only slightly more insecure in His Highness' territory than in many parts of the country subject to our own administration.

The mob of the capital was thoroughly under restraint. This has often formed a cause of anxiety and complication here. In 1857, for example, the only approach to actual outbreak which occurred at Hyderabad was when a fanatical crowd rushed from the city and made a futile* attack upon the Residency defences. The city and its suburbs contain, as is well known, a large gathering of the idle and disaffected from all parts of India, who are ever ready to assemble for any bad purpose. Where every one, from the noble to the footboy, carries as many weapons as he can muster, or conveniently dispose of about his person, the number of fighting men capable of assembling on any given occasion would vary with the nature of that occasion, that is, with the extent of sympathy which it chanced to evoke; and even the ordinary crowds that throng the thoroughfares derive, it must be confessed, from this universal distribution of arms a somewhat swaggering appearance, which is specially remarked upon by strangers. Still, whatever may have been the case many years ago, I am bound to say that I have never heard of any of our countrymen being insulted in Hyderabad during my tenure of office. On the contrary, the inhabitants remain quiet and orderly—many of them even respectful—as we pass along their streets. Officers who have chanced to ride on horseback, unattended, through the city have given the same favorable account of their reception; so much so that one is inclined to wonder whether the stories some-

* Futile, because skilfully dealt with by Major, now Major-General Briggs of the Madras Army; who was at that time Military Secretary to the Resident, and was placed in command of the body of troops engaged in repulsing the attack.

times circulated by the ill-informed to the effect that no European can enter Hyderabad without incurring great risk of being reviled or even killed by its rabble, had ever, at any past time, their foundation in actual facts. A measure for disarming all but a few privileged classes was resolved on by the late Nizam, in the first glow of his resentment after the attempt made to assassinate Sir Salar Jung in his palanquin, on the 27th January 1868. It was found impossible, however, to carry out so sweeping a measure at that time; and no efforts have been made in the same direction since. Therefore the success which has attended Sir Salar Jung's administration in dealing with the mob is all the more remarkable. One cause of crime at least, namely drunkenness, is under restriction in the city; since the sale of intoxicating liquors is strictly prohibited inside the walls. This, perhaps, does not tell for very much; as both spirits and *sendee*—the fermented juice of one of the palms—are obtainable in the bazars outside. It is found, however, that one of the most potent incentives to the crime of assassination is not inebriation—still less the mere carrying of weapons—but the disappointments which are sometimes experienced by aggrieved persons who have not been able to obtain justice in the city tribunals. With the improvement of the latter which is now, I trust, slowly being effected, this unhappy result of unredressed injuries and disregarded petitions ought to be reduced to the minimum. Feuds between two different races, such as Sikhs and Arabs, are fruitful causes of murder; since whenever a man of one tribe is killed, his friends think it incumbent on them to kill, if not the murderer, at least one of his clan, more especially when the courts of justice have proved too weak to reach the original perpetrator of the crime. Where Arabs are the guilty parties, this latter circumstance, it is to be feared, is occasionally witnessed.

In the midst of all the signal improvements which have just been noted, there was one feature of Hyderabad, as it was known to Sir Charles Metcalfe in 1820-25, which was equally patent to me, on assuming charge of the Residency in 1868, I allude to the relationship subsisting between the Nizam and his Minister. In this respect, indeed, so unchanged were the old conditions, that Sir Charles Metcalfe's own words, as applied by him to this aspect of Hyderabad affairs, might, after certain important modifications, have been used over again in 1868. The Nizam, owing to causes which need not be entered upon, had immured himself in his palace; and declined to exercise any other than an obstructive part in the functions of government. He rarely received the Resident; and rarely even his own Minister. Disease may latterly have been partly the reason of this;

but ever since his accession he had shown much of the same temper and frame of mind. His Minister had thus a doubly difficult office to fill, and a doubly heavy burden to bear. It is not surprising that he felt at times inclined to withdraw from the struggle altogether; only there was no one at Hyderabad who was fitted to relieve him of duties which he performed so admirably. Unfortunately, there were many who, with various objects in view, constantly sought to thwart his policy, or even to bring about his fall. The Nizam was but too open to the influence of such intriguers. Every insinuation that was conveyed to his ears against the conduct of his Minister found his mind well prepared to receive it, and to brood over it. The result was that much of rancour and suspicion had long formed an element in the political atmosphere at Hyderabad; and it was actually not thought just to the Minister, or safe to the stability of his administration, that anything approaching to freedom of intercourse should take place between the Resident and the nobles. One of the latter, having been pronounced guilty some eight years ago, of lending himself to an intrigue, the object of which, it was believed, was to procure for him the office of Minister, had been prohibited, under the orders of the Supreme Government, from appearing on any public occasion, the Nizam's own darbars not excepted, where the British representative was present.* This sentence, of course, amounted to one of complete political extinction. And, from various causes, it had come to pass that, for whole years at a time, the only members of the Hyderabad darbar who were ever received at the Residency were the Minister himself, and one or two of his own near relations or dependents. And yet, however dissatisfied one may have felt with a state of things which tended to keep the Resident estranged as it were both from the Nizam and his nobles, there was nothing for it but to accept that alternative as, under existing circumstances, the lesser of two evils. At the same time, it is hardly possible to picture any political conditions more unfavourable than those now described to the cause of administrative progress. The marvel indeed is that Sir Salar Jung had been able, under such a regime, to accomplish so much as he had done.

* *Vide* Administration Report by the Resident at Hyderabad, 1862-63, para 124.

CHAPTER II.

REVIEW OF THE POLITICAL INCIDENTS OF 1869-70.

Death of His Highness Afzal-ud-Dowlah.

382. Before noting the chief political features of the past year at the Nizam's capital, it is necessary to advert to an occurrence which took place a short time before the official year commenced; and which, more than any other that has happened for perhaps a whole century, has affected the complexion of Hyderabad affairs; namely, the demise of His Highness Afzal-ud-Dowlah, the seventh Nizam, or Nawwab,* of Hyderabad; who expired rather suddenly on the 26th of February 1869, after twelve years of power.

Proclamation of his successor.

383. To proclaim his only son, named Meer Mahboob Alee Khan—then a child of little more than two and-a-half years of age—as his successor, was the first public duty which had then to be performed. Moreover, it had to be done without any delay; in order to compose the agitated minds of the people. Accordingly, the proclamation was made in the usual manner within a few hours after the Nizam's death; and at once produced the desired effect.

Improvement in mode of receiving the Resident at the Nizam's darbars.

384. On the following day, several of the principal Ameers, including the Minister, met at the Residency to arrange, among other matters, for my paying a visit of condolence to the infant Nizam. This seemed a good opportunity of explaining to them that the old etiquette according to which British officers were

* It may be remarked that the term Nizam, as applied to the Nawwabs of Hyderabad, is but seldom used by the people of Hyderabad themselves. These generally speak of His Highness as the Nawwab; or "*barè* (great) Nawwab," as distinguished from the nobles, to whom, as a matter of courtesy, the title of Nawwab is also applied. In common native parlance, he is also constantly referred to as the Huzoor, or Highness, but not so commonly as Nizam. The fortunes of the family were founded, as is well known, by a distinguished General of the Emperor Aurangzeb, called Kamar-ud-Deen, Asaf Jah, who in 1713 was appointed Nizam-ul-Mulk, and Soobahdar of the Dakhan.

required to take off their shoes in approaching the Nizam, and seat themselves after His Highness' own fashion upon the ground, did not promote those terms of friendly intercourse with the Resident on which the satisfactory relationship existing between the two Governments so much depends. During the late Nizam's lifetime, the custom of his predecessors in this matter had been rigidly observed. Therefore, the Ameers were at first reluctant to consent to a change. They remarked that, if it was necessary to introduce a new usage, the best time for doing so would be when the Nizam attained his majority: or, if that were too long to wait, that, at all events, the ancient forms should be complied with on the occasion of the Resident's first visit to the palace after the Nizam's death. In answer to these suggestions, I thought it best very decidedly to re-assert the position originally taken up. The consequence was that the objections of the Ameers disappeared; and Sir Salar Jung promised that suitable arrangements would be made for our reception on the following day.

This promise was well kept; and I could not see that the change of etiquette, which, when it was talked of beforehand, some had affected to think a critical one, really attracted any special remark or attention when it was being actually carried out; and that too in the presence of an unusually large number of native spectators.

The same method was, of course, observed on the occasion of the more formal darbar which took place in the palace a few days afterwards for the installation of the young Nizam, by placing him on the *masnad*, or official seat, of the Nawwabs of Hyderabad, and at all subsequent receptions of a similar kind: that is, rows of chairs for the accommodation of the British visitors are arranged on the left of the *masnad;* which is elevated on a kind of dais, so as to place His Highness on a level with his visitors; while, upon the left, the Ameers continue to seat themselves in oriental posture upon a similarly raised platform.

And thus a usage which has excited much hostile criticism, and which was hardly consonant with the character belonging to the representatives of the paramount Government, has at last been quietly numbered with the other obsolete customs of former days.

Resumé. 385. At the commencement of the past official year, the aspect of affairs at Hyderabad was in this wise.

A remarkable re-union had taken place among the Ameers. Some of their number who, though nearly related, had not spoken to one another for years had resumed the friendly intercourse of their early days. With the sanction of the Supreme Government, the Nawwab Vikar-ul-Umarà, whose case is alluded to above, had been restored to his former privileges a few days after His Highness the Nizam's death ; and, though not officially connected with the government, has since given honest and good support to the administration.

The infant Nizam had been installed just one month before in his father's place.

There were at that time hopes that his late Highness might prove to have left posthumous issue. Such was afterwards found not to be the case ; and his only surviving brother, the Nawwab Rawshan-ud-Dowlah,* remained in undisturbed possession of the place of heir apparent.

This nobleman, as Government will remember, had advanced claims to be appointed guardian of his nephew, the present Nizam, and regent or governor, during the latter's minority. These pretensions were opposed to the traditions of Hyderabad; where the heir apparent is obliged by a time-honoured usage to spend his life in a state of seclusion bordering on one of confinement; and his views had accordingly been repudiated by the Ameers, when they assembled to deliberate on the arrangements to be made for the conduct of affairs during the Nizam's early years.

In conformity with the wishes of these Ameers themselves, the guardianship of the Nizam's person, and the responsibility of the administration of the country until he should come of age had been assigned to the Nawwabs Sir Salar Jung, K. C. S. I., and Shams-ul-Umarà Ameer-i-Kabeer Bahadur. The executive functions of the government had at the same time been vested in the former nobleman, in his long-tried capacity of Minister of State.

The considerations which pointed to Sir Salar Jung as one eminently fitted for this office hardly require to be referred to; as his high qualities are fully appreciated wherever the recent history of this State is known.

The Nawwab Shams-ul-Umarà, again, as the acknowledged head of the party in Hyderabad affairs which may be said to represent the

* While these lines were passing through the press, the demise of the above nobleman was reported.

Nizam's own personal views and interests, formed a tower of strength to the new administration as soon as he consented to hold a place in it. The great-grandson of a nobleman who accompanied Nizam-ul-Mulk, the founder of the Nizamate, from Delhi in the early part of the last century, the present Shams-ul-Umarà is the worthy representative of a family which, owing to the official position always held by it's chief as commander of the Nizam's personal troops, and also to several intermarriages it has made with that of the Nizam himself, bears in the eyes of the people of Hyderabad a prestige only second to that of the sovereign. The title of Ameer-i-Kabeer, or premier noble, which is invariably borne by the head of the house of Shams-ul-Umarà, thus truly denotes his actual position in the country. It is impossible to say what intrigues against the government, which might otherwise have originated among the more unenlightened portion of the Hyderabad community, were averted by the mere fact that the Nawwab Shams-ul-Umarà, whom all parties alike hold in high confidence and esteem, made himself personally responsible for the acts of the administration. And thus the services which were rendered both to our Government and the Nizam's during the mutiny of 1857—when the Shams-ul-Umarà of the day directed the whole weight of his influence to thwarting the plots of the seditious—have been signally added to and sustained by his son, the present representative of the family, during the past year.

Arrangements for education of the young Nizam.

386. In a despatch dated 22nd March 1869, it had been declared by His Excellency the Viceroy in Council that the future education of the young Nizam was an object of "much solicitude" to the Government of India; and that it was deemed "a matter of the great-"est importance that His Highness should receive every advantage "in this respect that can be afforded to him: and that every effort "should be made, by extending to him the blessings of a sound and "liberal education, to fit him, as far as possible, for the high and "important duties of his future life."

His Excellency the Viceroy was further of opinion that the question of His Highness' education should, as far as possible, be settled at once, and that a "guarantee should be given that, at an "early period, as soon as His Highness' years will permit, an Eng-"lish gentleman of learning and ability should be received into His "Highness' service, and entrusted with the important duties of "superintending his education."

To explain to the two regents of the Hyderabad State the views thus announced by the Government of India on the above point of cardinal importance to the future welfare of this country formed one of my earliest duties during the year under review. And an assurance was duly obtained from the Minister that, when the right time comes, the appointed means shall be taken towards securing to the young Nizam all the benefits of a sound education.

With this it may be hoped some of the old political evils of Hyderabad which were glanced at in the preceding chapter may be said to have died a natural death. And when the present Nizam succeeds to the management of his own country, he will do so under advantages which have never fallen to the lot of his predecessors. The great anxiety of all who are interested in the future of Hyderabad is that the life on which so much seems to depend may be spared. Hitherto not much cause of alarm on this ground has occurred.

Association of certain of the Ameers in the work of the government.

387. The subject of the young Nizam's education having been placed, even at this early date, on a basis which will ensure the views of the Supreme Government being carried out with regard to it as soon as His Highness' age permits, the Minister's attention was next bestowed on another matter of importance, namely, the consolidation of the Hyderabad government by means of assigning places in the administration to a few of the more promising of the young Ameers.

The measures adopted by Sir Salar Jung with this end in view were reported to Government in my despatch No. 45, dated the 15th December last. In place of the old system, under which there had been much centralization of all the functions of government in one person, four separate departments, namely Judicial, Revenue, Police, and Miscellaneous, were created under the new organization. Each of these is presided over by its own Minister; who is termed the Sadr-ul-Mihâmm, or head of affairs, and is subordinate only to the Madâr-ul-Mihâmm,* or chief minister himself.

Sir Salar Jung's visit to Berar.

388. The tour which Sir Salar Jung was lately able to make through upper India, after having met His Excellency the Viceroy in Berar, as adverted to in the preceding division of this Report, may be mentioned as one be-

* *Lit.* centre, or pivot, of affairs.

neficial result due to the arrangements just noticed, inasmuch as he could scarcely have left the capital so soon after His Highness' death, had it not been that two of the departmental Ministers, namely, the Nawwabs Basheer-ud-Dowlah and Mukarram-ud-Dowlah, were ready to supply his place during his absence. The successful manner in which this was done by these two Ameers, and the harmonious spirit with which they co-operated with one another for the conduct of public business deserve all praise. Unquestionably, also it was a good thing for Hyderabad that Sir Salar Jung should have an opportunity of seeing with his own eyes the condition of other parts of India. He had never before been able to extend his excursions further than about twenty miles from the capital, where he was born. In former days, the Minister was expected not to leave the city, even for the purpose of visiting the Resident, without obtaining the Nizam's special permission; and a period of three days was the utmost length of time for which he was allowed to be absent from the precincts of his own residence. The feeling of interest with which Sir Salar Jung travelled from Hyderabad to Bombay, and thence to Agra, Delhi, Lucknow, Calcutta, and Madras, may therefore be imagined. The reception which was everywhere accorded to him, not only by His Excellency the Viceroy himself, and their Excellencies the Governors of Madras and Bombay, but by every society of our countrymen to which he was introduced was extremely gratifying to him: and showed him that such efforts as he has long been making at Hyderabad in the cause of enlightenment and good government are held to confer on their author a more real claim to consideration than the mere accidents of birth or prestige of hereditary power could do. It is also certain that he has brought back with him a store of observations and reflections which will be turned to account in his own administrative work.

Administrative measures of the year.

389. It is impossible on this occasion to present the Government of India with a complete review of the measures adopted by the native government during the past year under the several heads of administration. The data for such a *resumé* could, of course, only be afforded by Sir Salar Jung himself. And, when he was lately applied to on the subject, his answer was that, as he would wish any information of this nature which he might supply to be as complete as possible, whereas he could not at present draw up more than a hasty and crude memorandum, he therefore preferred waiting till next year, when a full administration report will be prepared. He fur-

ther observed, and justly, that it was then only seven months since the Sadr-ul-Mihâmms assumed office; while his own absence from Hyderabad during part of that time formed a drawback to the development of the new arrangements.

Meanwhile, however, a slight sketch may be prepared from records already available, of the present condition of the several departments of the Hyderabad Administration; while any measures of progress which have been introduced in connection with each during the year under review, and which, from their importance or other causes, have chanced to engage my own attention will, at the same time, be reported for the information of the Government of India.

In carrying out the above object, the several topics of administration will be referred to in the same order as has been given to them by the Minister in his new scheme of government.

CHAPTER III.

JUSTICE.

SADR-UL-MIHAMM—The Nawwab Basheer-ud-Dowlah.

Difficulties to be contended against.

390. In this department, it has to be confessed, there is still much room for improvement. There is also, it must be added, some desire on the part of the native government to effect that improvement. A good deal has been accomplished during the past year with this object in view; and further measures are under consideration. Three *Maolvees*, or Muhammadan Law officers, who were convicted of receiving bribes were sentenced to long periods of imprisonment. Much difficulty is met with in obtaining good men for the higher judicial posts. Under a Muhammadan government, it is, of course, deemed imperatively necessary that all such offices should be filled by learned Musalmans; which greatly limits the field of selection.* The criminal courts are probably more efficient than the civil ones, for reasons which are apparent. In the latter, the plaintiff's difficulties are far from over, even when, after many delays, he has obtained a decree. Execution is always precarious; occasionally even impossible.

The establishment of a college at Hyderabad specially for the training of youths intended for the judicial department is a project which has occurred to Sir Salar Jung; and which may one day, perhaps, be carried out. Meanwhile the most is being made of existing materials; and a few good officers have been introduced from other parts of India.

The judicial arrangements in the larger jageers are less satisfactory than throughout the districts managed by the government itself. In the former, they are much in the hands of scribes and

* This principle is by no means carried to an illiberal extent, however. In the case of the Judicial branch of the administration it is inevitable, owing to the intimate relationship which subsists between the sciences of Law and Theology as understood by Muhammadans. Some of the best revenue officers, on the other hand, have been chosen from among Parsees, Brahmans, and others.

others; who are apt to sell their powerful interference in matters of civil jurisdiction to the highest bidder.

The improvement of the courts of justice could hardly fail to have a good effect on the commercial and material condition of the country; since trade is at present more or less weighted by the unusual difficulties which attend the litigation sometimes inseparable from its pursuit.

Jails.

391. These are not yet what they ought to be, either in the capital or the other towns. The convicts are employed in out-door labour; which they are said to prefer to spending their days cooped up in the narrow prison accommodation assigned to them. The total number of adults undergoing sentences of rigorous imprisonment for longer terms than one year in the whole of the Nizam's dominions is stated at 1,654.

Punishments.

392. Capital sentences are rarely passed, and then only subject to confirmation by the highest authority in the State. Decapitation is the method resorted to in such cases. Whipping is not one of the recognized forms of punishment; though it may perhaps be used by the police as a means of extracting confessions from supposed thieves, and recovering stolen property. Fines and imprisonment form the most common kinds of punishment.

Satthee.

Female Infanticide.

393. The former of these crimes is almost unknown in the Nizam's country. The last reported case of it occurred about six years ago; and the victim was a woman of a Banjaree or wandering tribe. The state of society prevailing here is obviously not one which favours the prevalence of female infanticide.

Judicial Returns.

394. Such judicial returns as could this year be submitted would not throw much real light either on the quantity or quality of the work performed by the courts. Judicial administration is a topic on which the methods of native governments differ from those which we are accustomed to regard as essential to success. Nevertheless, the end pursued should be the same; and I trust soon to be able to report yet further progress having been made towards the attainment of that end throughout the Nizam's country.

CHAPTER IV.

REVENUE.

SADR-UL-MIHAMM—The Nawwab Mukarram-ud-Dowlah.

395. In no respect does the recent administration of His Highness' country contrast more favorably with the state of things prevailing twenty years ago than in regard to revenue matters.

The old method of collecting the public dues has already been incidentally alluded to. Its essential feature was that the revenue, instead of being collected by the government itself, through officers regularly appointed for the purpose, was raised by assigning, or farming out, whole districts to contractors; on the understanding that these, some of whom were military chiefs, others bankers, and others private individuals, should realize the State demand, with, of course, as much in addition as they might be able to compass on their own account. The evils inherent in such a system require no explanation.

A few years ago, however, the whole country, as was described by Sir R. Temple in his confidential Report already alluded to, was divided for revenue and other administrative purposes into fourteen districts, or zillahs, each zillah yielding a revenue of from eight to thirteen lakhs of rupees annually. Salaried Talukdars and their assistants, exercising powers similar to those of District and other Civil officers in our own non-regulation provinces, are placed in charge of these administrative divisions; while five officers called Sadr Talukdars, corresponding again with our Divisional Commissioners, preside over the five circles into which all the districts are grouped.

Large tracts of country, indeed, occur here and there throughout the zillahs which are excepted from the jurisdiction of the government officers. These consist of the Nizam's own lands; and of a number of jageers of different kinds, some of the most important of which are held as fiefs by the great officers of the State. It must be admitted that the existence of these isolated jurisdictions is not conducive to the cause of good government. The character of the

internal administration of each depends on the arrangements which its holder—generally himself an absentee—can be induced to make for that purpose.

Deccanee Revenue.

396. The public or general revenue of the Hyderabad State during the past year is said to have amounted to about rupees 1,25,60,000 (£1,256,000.) It is derived from the usual sources: namely Land Revenue; Excise; Customs and Octroi; Miscellaneous, such as Municipal Funds; and, lastly, Contingencies, including Judicial and other Stamps.

Land Tax.

397. There is every reason to believe that the Land Tax is moderately assessed; and that the peasantry—no longer suffering under the evils belonging to the revenue system of former days—enjoy a very fair share of prosperity. Interesting information under this head will no doubt be available next year, after the receipt of Sir Salar Jung's promised Administration Report.

Trade.

398. The trade of the Nizam's dominions with other provinces, as indicated by the Custom-house returns, is stated by Sir Salar Jung at three and a quarter millions sterling a year. The principal articles of export are cotton, oil-seed, ghee, country-cloths, and metal-ware; those of import, salt, European piece-goods, and hardware.

Banjarees are still much used as the grain-carriers of the country. Sometimes, when the annual rains happen to be scanty or long-delayed, and the tanks and pastures by the way-sides have failed, the pack-bullocks of these nomads perish in large numbers; and food-staples in some of the larger towns at a distance from the railway reach famine prices in consequence. Nothing of this nature has happened during the past year. Thirty-two inches of rain fell at Hyderabad between the beginning of May and the end of October. Most other parts of the country were equally favoured in this respect; and a marked absence of cholera and other epidemic diseases has been experienced.

Industries.

399. Among the manufactures of the Nizam's dominions, may be noted the ornamental metal-ware cups and vases of Beder; the embroideries of Hyderabad and Aurungabad; the cloths of Nandair; and the beautiful car-

pets of Warangal. The last-named would be appreciated wherever introduced. At present they appear to be little known beyond His Highness' own territory. The same might be said, though in a lesser degree, of the metal-ware of Beder.

Natural products.

400. These have not hitherto enjoyed that full share of attention which they undoubtedly merit. A beginning is, however, being made in this direction.

A system of Forest conservancy was introduced two or three years ago; that is to say, a Conservator of forests, and a few Assistants were appointed. Last year, an increase was made to this establishment; and at least a fair commencement has been made towards introducing in His Highness' country the Forest-rules which are in force in other parts of India.

Steps are being taken to ascertain, by means of boring, the value of certain coal mines, the existence of which has long been only talked of.

Roads and tanks are at the same time having increased care bestowed upon them, as will be noticed more in detail in another chapter of this Report.

And, on the whole, there is reason to hope that this rich and promising part of India will make, ere long, a decided advance as regards the development of its industries, and its material resources generally, under the increased measure of regularity which has been given during the past year to its revenue administration.

CHAPTER V.

MILITARY; AND POLICE.

SADR-UL-MIHAMM—The Nawwab Shamsheer Jung Bahadur.

401. The Nizam's military establishments are not under the control of the Minister of police. Nevertheless, as the functions of the two departments are somewhat similar, both may be noticed under the same head.

When it is considered that the armaments designed for the defence of the Empire at large equally serve to protect the Nizam's territories; and, that not only are the general military resources of Great Britain thus available, if need be, in His Highness' interests, but that the two special forces which have been described in the first division of this Report, namely the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, and more peculiarly still, the Contingent, are always maintained, under treaty obligations, within his dominions, for the purpose of supporting his authority, then perhaps, it might be thought that, strong in the triple protection thus guaranteed, Hyderabad did not stand in need of much further military preparation.

Strength and composition of military establishments.

402. And yet the Nizam's own army proper admits of being exhibited at least on paper at a very considerable numerical strength indeed. Sir R. Temple, in his confidential Report already adverted to, computed its grand total at 43,704 men; and estimated the aggregate cost at ninety-four lakhs of rupees per annum.

But then it is not to be supposed that this enormous force represents an army in our sense of the word; that is, that it is under one head, or Commander-in-Chief; occupies barracks or cantonments; and turns out for drill under brigade and regimental commanders. On the contrary, if we exclude one important body of troops to be afterwards noted, not more than eight or ten thousand of the whole number possess what we regard as military organization. The latter chiefly consist of the representatives of certain regiments of sepoys which were raised towards the end of last century; and were dressed, armed, and disciplined partly after the French

model, and partly after our own. They now afford an example of what sepoys will become when they have once been set up in accordance with our methods, and then been left for years without any further care of the same nature being bestowed upon them. Thus a sepoy sentry often makes over his musket to a little boy, who attends upon him for the purpose: and, when any one is passing who is thought worthy of a salute, takes his piece from his servant, presents arms, and then returns it to the latter again. On the whole, however, these troops may be said fairly to earn their pay, by doing police duty in the districts; escorting prisoners, or treasure; and furnishing innumerable complimentary and other guards.

The largest remaining portion of the Hyderabad military establishment consists of bodies of semi-feudal retainers, or political dependents, who have grown out of the peculiar state of society to which they belong. About five thousand of these are cavalry; which is broken up like all the rest, into feudal bodies, each recognizing only the authority of its own Jamadar. The rest are infantry of various races; including Arabs, Sikhs, Sindhees, Rohillahs, Beloochis, Rahturs, and others. All these wear no special uniform, and are armed each man after his own fashion. Possibly they might be found more apt to fight among themselves than against a common enemy; and, even if the influence of their several chiefs should ever bring them together under one standard, they would not be very formidable to regular troops, except behind walls.

Many of them are utilized as police in jageers to which the general police system of the country has not yet been extended. Others garrison the numerous fortresses in His Highness' territory; the principal of which are Golcondah, Dawlatabad, Beder, and Kulbargah; while the whole serve to lend the necessary prestige to the several Chiefs whom they follow. Looked at from our point of view, it is to be regretted that so large a portion of the revenue of the country should be expended in maintaining such establishments. Yet they belong essentially to the present stage of civilization in this part of India; and their absorption can therefore but keep pace with, not precede, the gradual alteration which time will probably effect in the order of things with which they are identified.

Reformed Troops.

403. There is however another military establishment which has been formed during the last eight years, under the Minister's own special care, with the

avowed object of absorbing into its ranks, and thus rendering more useful, certain portions of the above extremely irregular levies. This new force is called, and justly, the Nizam's "Reformed Troops." It consists of two batteries of artillery partly drawn by horses; two regiments of cavalry; and three of infantry, all under the command of a European officer with the rank of Major. The Commissioned regimental officers are chiefly natives; with an admixture of Europeans and Eurasians, and one or two Persians and Arabs. The whole force is disciplined, as far as possible, after the model of the Hyderabad Contingent; which in truth it begins rather closely to resemble. Although the strictest economy has been practised with regard to it, yet it has reached a very fair degree of efficiency; and is quite capable of going through a Field-day brigaded with our own native regiments of the Line. Its head-quarters are at Hyderabad; but a portion of it is always out in the districts. It is no mere military toy of the Minister's. Indeed he has never once inspected it on parade. Nevertheless, it is entirely under his own supervision; and he has a European officer with the rank of Major, and designation of Military Secretary, for the express purpose of controlling, under his own instructions, its general economy. Owing to the circumstance that battalions not as yet incorporated with it, but belonging to the older military establishments, occasionally share in its drills, it is capable of mustering a good deal stronger than its own proper numerical strength. On such occasions, I cannot think that the force which parades under the Commandant of the Reformed Troops falls far short, all told, of five thousand fighting men. Politically there is but little room for apprehension that this force will ever be found on any other side than that of order.

Police.

404. A share of the police-work of the country is performed, as has been mentioned, by so-called soldiers of different kinds. There is also, however, a regular Zillah or district police, composed both of horse and foot, and costing about six and half lakhs of rupees (£65,000) annually; a suburban police, designed specially for the protection of the Jageer districts lying within a radius of 20 miles or so of Hyderabad, and costing about rupees 56,000 (£5,600) a year; and lastly, municipal or city police for duty under the Kotwals or chief police officers of the capital and the other larger towns.

The general police system of the country has a fair share of organization, and works, on the whole, very well. Something may be hoped for however, from its having been placed under a regular de-

partmental head: as it is needless to say, it admits of being improved in many important respects. It might be expecting too much to look for rapid improvement in its mode of action: considering the difficulty experienced in inducing even police which has been under our own tuition for half a century to forego the favourite native methods of crime detection, and trust to the patient pursuit of natural clues, rather than to the adoption of premature measures towards all whom they may chance to suspect in connection with a case.

Crime.

405. The proportion of unreported to reported crime throughout the Nizam's country must be high. It may be said, however, that crimes of the graver descriptions, such as murder and highway robbery, even if not reported by the sufferers, or taken due cognizance of by the proper local authorities, generally reach, sooner or later, the Minister's or the Resident's ears. Robberies of the mail are brought to notice at once by the Postmaster-general of Madras. With regard to such cases, it is sometimes uncertain whether the mail really was attacked by robbers, or quietly plundered by the runners or coachmen of the department themselves. Unfortunately, however, the murder or severe wounding of the latter occasionally attests too surely the real nature of the occurrence. Five mail robberies, in which about 7,360 rupees worth of property is said to have been plundered, were reported in the course of last year; and the action of the police in bringing the dakaits to punishment has not as yet been very successful.

Thuggee and Dakaitee Agency.

406. Two special bodies of police are located in the Nizam's territory in connection with our own Agency for the suppression of Thuggee and Dakaitee. Both of these are under the orders of Colonel Hervey, C. B., the General Superintendent. One has its head-quarters at Jaulna, under Captain Ward, an officer of the department, who is detailed for that particular duty only. The other is located at Hyderabad; and is worked by the First Assistant Resident. The cost of both establishments is defrayed by the Imperial Government, against which it forms an item of rupees 21,800 (£2,180) per annum. Criminals arrested by this special police are committed to the Resident, who tries all such cases in conjunction with a law officer of His Highness' government. The results attained by the department are duly recorded in the reports which are submitted from time to time by Colonel Her-

vey, C. B., to the Government of India. The Minister shows his appreciation of this extra agency for the repression of violent crime in the Nizam's territory by placing a small body of auxiliary police at the disposal of the Assistant General Superintendent at Hyderabad; and by aiding these operations generally.

CHAPTER VI.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

SADR-UL-MIHAMM—The Nawwab Meer Yawar Alee Bahadur.

407. Under the above general heading, the following branches have been grouped: *viz.*, Public Works; Education; Dispensaries; Sanitation and Conservancy; and lastly, Village-roads. These will now be separately reviewed.

SECTION I.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Personnel.

408. A sort of Public Works Department has gradually been formed during the past ten or fifteen years by the Nizam's government. Here, as in the judicial service, the great difficulty has been where to obtain good officers. The natives of the country themselves—with a few highly creditable though for the most part self-taught exceptions—do not as yet furnish such; while the inducements hitherto offered have hardly sufficed to render first-rate talent and qualifications general in the department. Doubtless, however, there are several good engineers in the employment of His Highness' government.

What is wanted is, more method, more vitality, more expenditure of money—with more judgment in expending what is spent—and, above all, more thorough organization.

Appointment of a Public Works Secretary.

409. A step has been taken in the last of these directions during the past year, by the appointment of an English engineer, of character and attainments, as a kind of Secretary to the Nizam's government in the Public Works department.

Tanks.

410. The above gentleman's experience of irrigational and other public works both in England and India ought to be of good account in the Hyderabad country, which is eminently one of tanks. To do justice to these in an agricultural point of view would task the resources of the strongest department that could be formed. In two districts alone, upwards of four thousand tanks are said to occur, many of them deserving the name of lakes. Speaking generally, and making all due allowance for several magnificent exceptions, it must be admitted that the tanks of His Highness' territory are in a neglected condition. It would be well if one of the higher functionaries of the administration—one who would look at these matters in a revenue light—were sometimes to visit districts which might be made the source of so much wealth merely by a judicious management of their abundant water-supply. It has hitherto been impossible for Sir Salar Jung himself to undertake tours of this nature. But it is to be hoped that either he or one of the Ministers of departments will begin to do so now.

Roads.

411. The communications of the Hyderabad country, though by no means as yet all that they might be, may be considered as in a more satisfactory condition than its tanks. In the whole territory, there is no regularly made road, in the technical and professional sense of the word, that is to say, no road "embanked, levelled, bridged, and macadamized throughout." The construction of such roads costs a larger sum than the Hyderabad treasury has been thought able to afford. There are, however, the following six lines of partly made road, which are easily traversed by wheels, except in the rainy season, and then in many places with extreme difficulty. In maintaining these roads, an outlay of rupees 34,220 (£3,422) a year is made, including cost of fixed establishments. (1) The Hyderabad and Sholapur road; leading nearly due west, till it reaches the confines of the Bombay Presidency. (2) The Hyderabad and Masulipatam road; communicating with the Eastern Coast. (3) The southern road; leading towards the Madras frontier and Karnool. (4) The northern road; leading by Neermal to the Nagpur frontier. (5) A road which strikes off from the southern road above mentioned, and trends in a south-western direction, through the Raeechur Doab, towards the Marhatta country in the Bombay Presidency. (6) A branch road, about thirty-eight miles long, which has been completed during the past year at a cost, including travellers' bungalows, of rupees 91,195 (£9,120),

for the purpose of connecting the station on the Great Indian Peninsular Railway Line at Kulbargah with a point on the old Hyderabad and Sholapur postal road.

Transit.

412. There are no horse-dâks in His Highness' country; unless a mail-cart which runs between Hyderabad and Kulbargah, and accommodates, after the rudest fashion, one traveller, can be so called. Journeys have to be performed in bullock-coaches or palanquins. Relays of bullocks are procurable on most of the roads. But when bearers are required to be posted stage by stage, they have to be sent out beforehand from Hyderabad or some other large town. European travellers have, perhaps, even less cause to fear robbers than in some parts of our own territory.

Railway communication.

413. By far the most important of all the public works ever undertaken by this government has been inaugurated during the year under review. I allude to His Highness the Nizam's State Railway which is soon to connect the capital of the Hyderabad country with other parts of India.

The subject of railway communication, I find, had engaged the anxious attention of several of my predecessors, especially of Sir G. Yule and Sir R. Temple. Difficulties existed in those days, notwithstanding that the late Nizam had given his consent to the proposals which were made to him in the matter. It was only during the past year that these difficulties were removed.

The recent negotiations with His Highness' government in connection with the extension to Hyderabad of a branch of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway were so fully reported at the time that it is unnecessary again to record them. The general basis on which they proceeded was this: namely, that, as the whole of the new line was to pass through the Nizam's dominions, while at the same time it was the interests of His Highness' own subjects that were directly involved in it, therefore it was more becoming that the project should form an outlet for native capital, and a means of stimulating native enterprise financially, than that it should be kept entirely dependent upon our own Government. The great obstacle in the way of developing through its instrumentality the commercial capacities of the moneyed classes of Hyderabad was that His Highness the Nizam's administration in the matter of public works was already overburdened with the task of supplying the daily and

fast increasing wants of the country; and was very far from prepared to deal with a work of such magnitude as this railway.

Every requirement of the case, however, was met by the arrangement ultimately formed; by which it was provided that, while the Hyderabad administration should, with the help of the local capitalists, raise all the funds required for the project, amounting, it was estimated, to a karor of rupees (£1,000,000,) and should, as sole owners of the railway, receive all profits that accrued from it when made, the British Government should undertake the task of actual construction, as well as the management and working of the line hereafter. The best available guarantee was thus afforded to the Hyderabad capitalists, not only that the line would be well and economically constructed, but that it would be conducted hereafter on those principles which experience acquired in many parts of the world has demonstrated to be the best calculated to render such enterprises successful financially.

Our Government was thus at the same time relieved from a fiscal burden not properly belonging to it; while the imperial resources were left by so much the more available for other important works of public utility throughout India generally.

414. The progress which has been made with the work itself since the completion of the negotiations just referred to has been described in another part of this Report. Numerous engineering and other questions attendant upon the commencement of a work of this nature are as yet only under consideration. But it is satisfactory to be assured that no time has been lost; that a survey of the tract of country to be traversed by the new line has been completed; and that no unusual delay or difficulty has hitherto been experienced. It would hardly be safe at this early stage, to hazard an opinion as to when the Railway will actually be opened.

The entire credit of this great work belongs to His Highness the Nizam's government itself. The enlightened views brought to bear upon all questions connected with it by the two representatives of that government, namely, the Nawwabs Sir Salar Jung and Shams-ul-Umarà, are best evidenced by the sound footing which, under their joint efforts and deliberations, has been given to the undertaking. Indeed, I submit that these two noblemen have shown, in their mode of dealing with this important public question, that example to other native administrators which it is peculiarly their part to afford, as those charged, for the time being, with the govern-

ment of the greatest of all the native states. It need hardly be added that the assistance of our own Government is being rendered to the fullest possible extent, for the furtherance of a scheme which promises to confer so much benefit on His Highness the Nizam's dominions.

SECTION II.—EDUCATION.

415. No organized system of State education exists under the Hyderabad government.

Village schools.

416. Private or indigenous schools are, however, to be met with in every part of the country. In villages where there is no school-house, classes of boys and girls are to be seen assembled under some large tree, engaged in acquiring the rudiments of the local vernacular. The absence of the bigger lads from such groups tells of the usual evil in agricultural communities, where children are so generally set to work at the earliest possible age. The education, if such it can be called, which is to be picked up in schools like these must be of the most fragmentary kind. Probably, indeed, not a single new feature has been imported into the plan of it during several hundred years. Still, it is better than nothing; and, such as it is, must at least be admitted to be generally diffused.

Government schools.

417. These are 72 in all; and are distributed over 55 of the larger towns. That at the capital dates from the year 1856. Competent teachers preside over its English department; and indeed it may be said to have greatly flourished, under Sir Salar Jung's own care. During the past year, it had an average daily attendance of 457 pupils: of whom 64 received an English education. The scholars pay no fees. Boys who do well pass by a natural transition from its forms into the service of government, which is the great object of school education at Hyderabad.

Official language.

418. The language used in the public offices here is called Persian; because, though differing a good deal from that now spoken and written in Persia, it re-

sembles the latter rather more than it does Hindoostanee. As the prescribed medium of public correspondence between the Resident and the native government, it forms in fact the official language of the country. Hence the indigenous Oordoo is little studied in the Hyderabad schools, and, instead of it, Persian is taught to the boys.

Domestic instruction.

419. The higher classes largely resort to private tuition for their children. Natives capable of discharging certain religious as well as scholastic functions are preferred for this purpose. These are treated with much deference: indeed the mere employment of them is held to be meritorious. Passing from house to house, they teach the children to read their sacred writings; though the meaning or sense of these scriptures does not generally enter into the lesson. Many teachers, indeed, do not understand that themselves; and all that their pupils require is to learn to read the words, so as to be able to go through their appointed religious exercises. This, with a perusal of the writings of the poet Saadee, and one or two histories written in the Persian language, forms the sum of the education of the average Muhammadan youth of Hyderabad. As the rank increases, the educational standard somewhat generally diminishes. The old idea of the middle ages that a gentleman can do very well without education has still some slight hold on the public mind here. Maternal affection is another obstacle in the way of education; and mothers who are unable to read or write are apt to interpose to save their sons from being subjected to the useless pain which learning is thought to carry with it. All these are evils, which time and the example of one or two enlightened natives of high rank are even now mitigating every year.

Even when a father of the better class makes up his mind that his son shall learn English, he hesitates about employing a foreigner to teach it to him. Still less would he send him to one of our public day-schools; where, perhaps, he might be flogged, and thus, in the opinion of the society to which he belongs, be permanently disgraced. He therefore selects some Hindoo or Muhammadan, as the case may be, with it may be a fair, it may be a very inferior, knowledge of our language; and, satisfied theologically, takes other qualifications for granted.

Signs are not wanting that a more liberal spirit is beginning to spring up in these and many other respects at Hyderabad. But still, what must be described as the general condition is very much as just stated.

Technical Education.

420. There remains to be noticed under the head of education a highly promising measure recently introduced by the Hyderabad administration, namely the institution of an Engineering College, with the object of preparing all who offer, but chiefly the native youth of the country itself, for the profession of an Engineer. The bearings of this scheme are thus more directly on the department of public works; though the purely scholastic character of the college has led the Minister to classify it with other educational establishments. Its commencement may be said to bear date from the time when Sir Richard Temple was Resident; though the delay which occurred in procuring a Principal from England, and other causes, led to the year under review being the first of its actual existence.

No happier means could have been devised than the creation of a college like this, for removing one of the impediments in the way of successful Public Works administration in His Highness' territory, namely the difficulty of procuring engineers. Another of its advantages obviously is that it helps to supply an urgent want of the native population here, by opening up to respectable native youths what is to them a new profession, namely the practice of engineering on sound scientific principles.

The average daily attendance during the year was 63. Some of the pupils are said to have made remarkable progress in their studies. No fees are taken from the students. It may be hoped that this College will ere long yield a Staff of educated native Engineers, capable of being intrusted, if not with greater works, at all events with small local schemes of an irrigational, as well as other, kinds; which possess at least this advantage that they are quickly completed, and become reproductive sooner than larger undertakings.

Cost of Engineering College.

421. The total cost of maintaining the institution amounted to rupees 23,067 (£2,306) for the whole year.

Expenditure during the year under heading of Education.

422. Including the above sum, the aggregate expenditure by His Highness' administration, for educational purposes, in the past year, is approximately stated by Sir Salar Jung at rupees 90,400 (£9,040.)

SECTION III.—DISPENSARIES.

Hyderabad Medical school.

423. The centre, or heart, of the whole dispensary system under the native government is the Hyderabad Medical School, an institution which has long been to the Nizam's medical department all that the engineering college described above is intended to prove towards that of Public Works.

Its aim is a high one, namely, the education of qualified practitioners of medicine and surgery capable of assuming independent medical charges in the service of the Nizam's government, or of entering upon private practice, in different parts of the Hyderabad country.

The school itself is situated, like the Engineering College, outside the city; and indeed close to the Residency.

It has been presided over, ever since its first establishment in the year 1846 by the Residency Surgeon; who receives a distinct salary from His Highness' government in his capacity of Superintendent or Principal of this school. He has three assistants in the work of tuition, all of whom are servants of the Nizam.

The link thus existing between the school and the Residency has been a most advantageous one. At the same time, the institution itself pertains entirely to the native government; and no interference in its management has ever proceeded from the Resident. Much of its success is due to the sustained personal interest which has been taken in it by Sir Salar Jung himself. And much also to the thoughtful and earnest advisers with respect to its administration whom he and his predecessors have found in its successive Superintendents. Among these indeed have been several of the most eminent past or present members of the Madras Medical Service; Dr. W. Maclean, for example, who enjoys, I am told, a European reputation as Principal of the Nettley college in England; and Dr. George Smith, now Principal of the Madras Medical college.

Anatomy; Physiology; Materia Medica, and Therapeutics; Surgery; Midwifery; and Medicine are the chief branches taught. Complete courses of lectures are delivered in the Hindoostanee language on the above subjects. The period of study usually found necessary to qualify a pupil for graduating is from five to seven years. After an examination conducted by a committee of medical officers un-

connected with the institution, successful candidates are presented with diplomas by the Minister; and are thus fairly admitted to the ranks of the medical profession. Members of the committee have declared with surprise that some of the graduates were competent to pass the degree tests before the Board of London or Edinburgh.

Students are not required to pay fees. On the contrary, they receive small stipends from His Highness' government during their period of study.

The school has turned out in all 45 graduates since its first establishment.

The number of students in regular attendance during the past session was 57. Of these, seven received their diplomas at the end of the year, and became eligible for the government service.

The total annual expenditure on account of the school was rupees 13,414 (£ 1,341.)

Dispensary Staff.

424. Nearly all the dispensaries in His Highness' dominions are under the charge of graduates of the medical school. One or two of these are Eurasians, but the great majority are Musalmans. All have their recognised departmental head in the Residency Surgeon; who receives and disposes of such references as they make to him; and tenders to the Minister what suggestions he thinks suitable on matters of dispensary administration. Medicines and hospital necessaries for all the dispensaries are obtained from England by the native government.

Dispensaries at the capital.

425. There are two dispensaries at Hyderabad itself. One of these is in connection with the medical school, which it adjoins, and is much resorted to, owing to its cases receiving the daily care of the Residency Surgeon himself. It has accommodation for 12 in-door patients; and a wing capable of receiving 12 more is now under erection. The average number of out-door cases ranges from 150 to 200 *per diem*. The number of children and others vaccinated at the Residency Dispensary in 1869 is stated at 601.

The other and larger dispensary is called, after the fine street in which it stands, and which connects the Residency bazars with the city, the Afzalganj dispensary. It was opened in 1866; and well merits being called a first-class dispensary. It is under the profes-

sional charge of one of the best of the graduates of the Hyderabad medical school, who performs with a fair share of success all the gravest operations of surgery. An excellent rule requires every young native medical man to spend a year in assisting in the duties of this dispensary before being posted to an independent charge. The hospital building has accommodation for thirty in-door patients; besides rooms for the resident medical officer; an operating theatre; and all other conveniences. The institution is used by the Residency Surgeon as a means of instructing his pupils in clinical medicine. It is not, however, under his own direct management; but under that of the native doctor above mentioned, whose name is Muhammad Wazeer, and who may be noticed as an instance of a highly qualified and worthy native member of the medical profession educated entirely at Hyderabad.

The number of out-patients treated during last year at the Afzalganj dispensary was 11,646; and of in-patients 475; total 12,121.

The number of children vaccinated at this dispensary during the same period was 262.

District Dispensaries.

426. The total number of dispensaries in His Highness' territory, in addition to the two just mentioned, is 24. These are called Taluk dispensaries; and are divided into classes according to their importance. In many places the accommodation provided is not very adequate; in a few, all that could be desired. In all, however, it may be said that the medical care is good, which is perhaps the most essential point.

Inspection of dispensaries.

427. A tour of inspection of all the dispensaries in the Nizam's country has recently been made by one of the Assistant teachers of the medical school, a Persian gentleman named Meerza Alee; who was one of the earliest graduates of the school, and has devoted himself with success ever since to the practice of medicine. His observations were specially directed to the subject of vaccination in the remoter districts. And where it was found that little was being done under that head, measures were taken to ensure its being more fully attended to in future.

Employment of the graduates.

428. Most of the graduates of the medical school pass into the service of the native government.

A few of them prefer entering on private practice; or attaching themselves as domestic physicians to the family of an Ameer. Private practitioners of this class are a great improvement on the indigenous *hakeem* of the country: a fact which the native public seems slowly finding out.

The purely empirical prescriber, however, holds his ground in a way which would be surprising, were it not that the same thing is seen even in England. At Hyderabad, practitioners of this class owe the favour which they enjoy, partly to shaping their treatment according to any medical ideas which their patients themselves may chance to hold on the subject of their ailments; partly to promising a speedy cure; and, above all, to the adoption of the no-cure no-fee principle. Sometimes, they even sign a bond undertaking to forfeit their good name failing the patient's recovery before a certain date. It is probable that the late Nizam, during his last illness, had his symptoms aggravated rather than relieved by the treatment of the uneducated *hakeems* in whom he confided. And when it is considered what an amount of suffering must be caused by such practitioners in the course of every year they live, the satisfactory nature of what has been done at Hyderabad for the purpose of introducing a rational system of medicine is more and more apparent.

SECTION IV.—SANITATION AND CONSERVANCY.

Review.

429. When the father of the late Nizam was once reminded by the Resident that his capital stood in need of sanitation, his reply was "*Kadeem se kaseef*," or "from ancient times it has been unswept." Indeed, the only conservancy which would naturally commend itself to the popular mind at Hyderabad would be a rigorous conservancy of its nuisances, and a scrupulous respect for all the old and unsanitary practices of its inhabitants.

The same remark, it is to be feared, is only too applicable to the towns and villages of His Highness' territory in general; and even in Berar, if not to some extent throughout the whole of India, long

years of British administration have not sufficed greatly to modify the prejudices engrained in the minds of the people in favour of their primeval condition of non-sanitation.

Sir George Yule and Sir Richard Temple, each in his turn, I find addressing the Minister on the necessity of introducing something like conservancy in Hyderabad.

Sir Salar Jung had responded as far as he could to these representations. For several years past, the environs of the city had been made to vie in one or two places with the Residency bazars, in respect of broad, well-swept, and well-lighted streets, and of sanitary care generally. A wholesome rivalry indeed had sprung up between the Superintendent of the Residency bazars and the officers charged on the Minister's part with the conservancy of the suburbs. Thus, no sooner were *trottoirs* laid down, or lamp-posts erected, or trees planted, or shop-fronts rubbed up in the jurisdiction of the former, than the same was done to a certain extent in that of the latter. But, for many years all these improvements came to a dead halt at the city-gate, or rather at Sir Salar Jung's residence, which stands only a few hundred yards inside the walls, and up to which point a broad carriage-drive has long existed. A Municipal Committee, it is true, had been created to take into consideration measures for the purification of the city; but for some time the only result of their consideration seemed to be the conclusion that very little could be done.

Progress.

430. During the past year, however, a remarkable change was witnessed. Not only has fresh vigour been infused into sanitation throughout the suburbs, but even inside the city itself roads have been widened; the accumulated rubbish of centuries has been made to disappear in many places under the pickaxes of gangs of convicts; and a commencement has certainly been effected towards introducing an efficient system of conservancy. The whole question of drainage is engaging the attention of the Minister's recently appointed Secretary in the Public Works Department; and I believe one of the resolutions which Sir Salar Jung formed in his own mind during his recent tour in Upper India was that Hyderabad should one day rival Lucknow in the cleanness of its streets and beauty of its public gardens. A very great deal has to be done before this can come to pass. But still, a beginning is being made.

Sanitation at Fairs.

431. The necessity of exercising supervision over fairs and religious gatherings as a means of checking the spread of cholera is a subject which it became necessary to press strongly on the Hyderabad government during the past year. One such fair in particular was viewed by the Secunderabad medical authorities with so much anxiety that it was even proposed to prevent its being held at all; as its site was thought dangerously near the barracks of the European soldiers. I was averse, however, to urge on this Muhammadan government so extremely unpopular a measure as the stopping of a fair sacred to its Hindoo subjects; and preferred taking the opportunity of causing such precautions to be used with regard to it as would reduce to a minimum the risk of its proving injurious. Sir Salar Jung entered warmly into these views; and so complete were the sanitary measures which he caused to be adopted that no case of sickness or death occurred during the period of 5 days when the fair was attended by, in all, about 15,000 persons. The police arrangements were equally successful. It is to be hoped that this satisfactory result will serve to attract the attention of the native government to the subject of the regulation of fairs generally throughout the Hyderabad country.

Vital statistics.

432. No means exist as yet of ascertaining, or even approximately estimating, the death-rate in the capital and its suburbs. Probably it is high. The past year has been an exceptionally healthy one, occurring after a protracted period of the prevalence of cholera. Indeed, the immunity, so far as is known, from cholera which has been enjoyed during the last twelve months does not support the view sometimes put forward by the medical authorities of Secunderabad that it is endemic in Hyderabad. This absence of cholera during the progress of the sanitary works above noted might help to reconcile the people to such measures; though, doubtless, the chief cause of the recent improvement in the public health was last season's copious rain-fall; and there being no positive scarcity of the food-staples during the subsequent period. Here, as elsewhere, it is found that semi-starvation, and unwholesome conditions of life generally, are among the surest harbingers of cholera; while the indigestible fruits and other substitutes for food to which the poorer classes are then driven to resort induce a distemper hardly less fatal or wide-spread than cholera itself, which indeed it sometimes much resembles, ex-

cept in yielding to treatment in the comparatively rare instances when remedies are procurable by its victims.

Disbursements.

433. The aggregate expenditure on the capital and its neighbourhood on sanitation, conservancy, and other matters affecting the public health during the past year is stated by Sir Salar Jung at rupees 68,800 (£6,880.)

Summary.

434. The above remarks are intended to show that, although the attempt to create a regular department of sanitation for the Nizam's territory is comparatively recent, and has hardly as yet extended any further indeed than the mere placing of the department under the care of a Sadr-ul-Mihâmm, nevertheless, endeavours after sanitary improvement have been going on for a much longer time, and have produced a fair amount of results; while there is some reason to hope that the subject is at last about to be taken up in real earnest, and that progress may gradually be made.

SECTION V.—VILLAGE-ROADS.

435. It cannot be stated that all of these are in as satisfactory a condition as could be wished. Generally speaking, they are mere fair weather roads: and the cost of their construction is said not to exceed *segoor** rupees 200 per mile. No attempt is made at bridging the nallahs; and the plan of sloping their sides so as to make them passable is all that is thought of. This at least obviates the additional impediment of a broken bridge, which is so often met with in India on highways of greater pretensions. The carts of the country being to a great extent of uniform gauge, their wheels scoop out in time a kind of hollow tramway, consisting of two deep ruts,

* In addition to the British Government rupee, which however cannot be said to be current though it is procurable, there are two kinds of rupee in common use throughout the Hyderabad country. One is called the *Halee Sikkah*, or new rupee, and sells at an average of 14 *per cent.* less than the British rupee. In this currency all servants of our Government who are employed in the Nizam's country, except Berar, are paid. The other is the *Segoor* rupee, of which from 125 to 127 go to every 100 of our own rupees. Wherever in the present Report rupees are referred to without any qualifying term, British Government rupees are what is meant.

in which the traffic proceeds very tolerably in dry weather, independently of the condition of the road on either side.

All the village-roads, with a few exceptions, are under the Talukdars, and not under the department of Public Works. A one *per cent.* road-fund is levied for their maintenance. Sir Salar Jung informs me that a sum of rupees 1,18,024 (£11,802) was expended in the course of last year in repairing village-roads, or in opening out new ones. Paid labourers, and neither pressed agriculturists nor the village servants, are said to be employed in works of this nature.

CHARLES B. SAUNDERS,

Resident.

HYDERABAD RESIDENCY,
DAKHAN,
The 22nd October 1870.